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Interaction between the United Nations, national parliaments and the Inter-Parliamentary Union

Note verbale dated 12 January 2012 from the Permanent Mission of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations has the honour to inform the Secretary-General that the Kingdom of Morocco, in its capacity as Chair of the Governing Council of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, would like to transmit the following documents to the General Assembly:

(a) Report of the Inter-Parliamentary Union Committee on United Nations Affairs (see annex I);

(b) Inter-Parliamentary Union strategy 2012-2017: "Better parliaments, stronger democracies" (see annex II).

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations kindly requests that the present note verbale and its annexes be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 130.

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Annex I to the note verbale dated 12 January 2012 from the Permanent Mission of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and French]

REPORT OF THE IPU COMMITTEE ON UNITED NATIONS AFFAIRS

Noted by the 125th IPU Assembly
(Bern, 19 October 2011)

The IPU Committee on United Nations Affairs met from 17 to 19 October 2011 in Bern, Switzerland, during the 125th IPU Assembly. In the context of the growing cooperation between the United Nations, national parliaments and the IPU, the Committee was called upon to play an increasingly important role. As a plenary body in which all IPU Member Parliaments were encouraged to engage, the Committee carried out three key functions: it provides a platform for regular interaction between senior United Nations officials and legislators on major global issues; it offers a space where legislators can review progress in the implementation of international commitments, be they agreements undertaken by United Nations Member States or IPU resolutions adopted by national parliaments; and it provides a framework where legislators can discuss and formulate a parliamentary input to major United Nations processes, such as the current international negotiations on climate change.

The Committee began its first session with a briefing and discussion with Mr. Jorge Sampaio, United Nations High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC). The session was chaired by Senator D. Dawson of Canada.

Established in 2005 at the initiative of the Governments of Spain and Turkey, the UNAOC aims to promote greater understanding and cooperation between nations and peoples across cultures and religions, thus countering polarization and extremism. In light of the IPU's core mission as set forth in its Statutes, and in follow-up to its resolution entitled "Ensuring respect for and peaceful co-existence between all religious communities and beliefs in a globalized world" (Nusa Dua, 2007), the IPU and the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations were developing closer cooperation.

The exchange of views with Mr. Sampaio pointed to the need to enhance the role of parliaments in dealing with popular concerns over culture, identity and migration, which challenged the core values of democracy around the world today. The 127th IPU Assembly in Quebec City in 2012 would focus on "The challenges of citizenship, identity and linguistic and cultural diversity in a globalized world".

Mr. Sampaio underscored the danger of populism in many societies. In Europe, for example, populist movements were gaining more seats in parliament, which reflected a lack of confidence in the political establishment, striking at the very heart of the European model of democracy. The United Nations Secretary-General, in his inaugural address to the 125th IPU Assembly, had warned that "the biggest challenge is not a deficit of resources, but a deficit of trust. People are losing faith in governments and institutions to do the right things". Restoring trust between citizens and politicians should be a major concern for all legislators.

The Committee stressed that parliaments and parliamentarians should consider various initiatives to enhance intercultural dialogue and cooperation, including the following:

- Organizing regular debates in parliament on issues relating to multiculturalism, cultural diversity, and intercultural dialogue;

- Establishing specific mechanisms to help maintain these issues on the parliamentary agenda, and continuing to take follow-up action with a view to implementing the recommendations of the above-mentioned IPU resolution;

- Playing an active role in the elaboration and implementation of national strategies for intercultural dialogue;

- Joining national delegations to the annual Forums of the UNAOC, such as the forthcoming Global Forum in Doha (11-13 December), which will focus on "Intercultural dialogue to boost development".

The second session took the form of a panel discussion on *Nuclear Weapons: The Road to Zero*. The event, chaired by Speaker Harry Jenkins of Australia, was held in follow-up to the IPU resolution entitled "Advancing nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, and securing the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty: the role of parliaments". This resolution includes many practical recommendations on what parliaments should do to ensure universal ratification of the Treaty, promote the United Nations Secretary-General's five-point plan for nuclear disarmament, and support a number of steps such as reductions in nuclear stockpiles, establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, and commencement of negotiations on a fissile materials treaty and a comprehensive nuclear weapons convention.

The Committee heard presentations by renowned public figures, prominent experts and leading parliamentarians, and engaged in a discussion on the new visions, policies and proposals put forward to address the threats and challenges posed by nuclear weapons. It also considered possible roles, responsibilities and action by parliaments and parliamentarians, including regional perspectives and initiatives from Europe, Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America.

The participants deplored the scant attention paid by parliamentarians to this crucial issue. The catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons outweighed all the possible arguments for maintaining these weapons in the world today. It was irresponsible and unacceptable to work for their abolition after they had been used — whether accidentally, intentionally or by miscalculation. Failure to properly and urgently address this issue was tantamount to crushing the hopes and aspirations and violating the rights of citizens the world over. In addition, the huge financial resources poured into the production of nuclear weapons deprived millions of persons of access to better health care, education and development.

The Committee reaffirmed that all nations had a responsibility to address this issue diligently. Nuclear weapons States had an obligation to implement the commitments they had undertaken through the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), which inter alia called for the start of negotiations on the elimination of nuclear weapons. Non-nuclear weapon States could help establish the framework for a nuclear weapons-free world by prohibiting and criminalizing nuclear weapons in their national legislation, establishing regional nuclear weapons-free zones, and promoting common security models as alternatives to nuclear deterrence.

The Committee called on parliamentarians around the world to take action and to promote concrete measures aimed at nuclear disarmament. In support of this process, the IPU was encouraged to develop tools for parliamentarians, including a guide on good practice and model legislation intended to inspire other parliaments. The Committee recommended that the IPU maintain the issue of nuclear disarmament on its agenda and

continue its work in cooperation with partners such as the United Nations, the Comprehensive Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO) and the International Committee of the Red Cross, as well as with think tanks, non-governmental organizations and parliamentary bodies such as Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament (PNND).

The Committee devoted its third session to the Istanbul Programme of Action and follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDC IV), held in Istanbul in May 2011. The session was moderated by Mr. T. Melegue, a member of the National Assembly of Burkina Faso, and featured a keynote address by Mr. Cheick Sidi Diarra, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS). The presentations addressed the main outcomes of LDC IV and plans for follow-up, and the important role parliaments had in the achievement of national development commitments, including the Istanbul Declaration and Programme of Action (IPoA). Participants were briefed on the joint IPU-UNOHRLLS project in support of LDC Parliaments and introduced participants to a Guidance Note developed by the IPU.

The joint project sought to enhance parliaments' contribution to the implementation of the LDC IV decisions, particularly in the areas of good governance and capacity-building. The main purpose of the project was to strengthen the ability of LDC parliaments to establish, monitor, assess, and provide follow-up to the IPoA. The IPU Guidance Note was designed to provide LDC parliaments with guidelines on possible institutional mechanisms for mainstreaming relevant IPoA commitments into their work. It sought to encourage greater involvement by parliaments in the area of development cooperation, and highlighted the advantages and disadvantages of creating dedicated parliamentary committees on the IPoA.

In the ensuing discussion, participants and presenters underscored the vital role of parliaments in the implementation of the IPoA. They agreed that the IPoA provided LDC parliaments with the basis to be involved in major policy decisions. Development-related committees or informal working groups often did not have the resources to do their work properly, but participants recognized that LDCs must pay attention to empowering parliament, and taking charge of their own development. They acknowledged that a greater dissemination of information at the national level was required, emphasizing the need for greater cooperation among LDCs at the regional and subregional levels.

In a separate session held in the afternoon of 17 October, the Committee examined developments in cooperation between the United Nations, national parliaments and the IPU. It heard a presentation by Ms. K. Komi (Finland), a member of the Advisory Group of the IPU Committee on United Nations Affairs, on the main findings and recommendations of the most recent field mission conducted by the Advisory Group to Ghana and Sierra Leone.

As was the case during previous mission to the United Republic of Tanzania (2008) and Viet Nam (2009), the purpose of the IPU visit was to gather first-hand information on progress made in the One United Nations reform and, more generally, to gain a better understanding of how United Nations country teams engaged with the national parliament. The mission sought to assess the involvement of parliament in the formulation of national development strategies and the oversight of aid, and to identify modalities to address any possible shortcomings. The mission's long-term objective therefore was to help lay the foundations for greater parliamentary involvement in the improved planning and use of development funding.

The Committee held an exchange of views on the various recommendations included in the mission report, which were applicable to many other countries. In order to fully exercise its functions and oversight role, efforts aimed at building parliamentary capacity and providing technical assistance must be pursued. Regional parliamentary organizations were called upon to play a more active role, including as depositories of relevant information and expertise.

The Committee considered that there was greater scope for the United Nations to engage with parliament as a serious partner, not just as a recipient of international assistance, but also — and more importantly — as a major player in the design and implementation of national strategies and plans. While promoting the Delivering as One approach, the United Nations as a system should be prepared to provide clearer guidelines on how United Nations country teams could best engage with national parliaments on various policy issues.

As observed by the IPU field mission and highlighted in the responses to the IPU Survey on how parliaments organize their work vis-à-vis the United Nations system (July 2010), this relationship varies from country to country, depending on a wide range of variables. United Nations General Assembly resolution 65/123 specifically calls for "a regular annual exchange between the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and the senior leadership of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, with a view to building greater coherence in the work of the two organizations, maximizing parliamentary support for the United Nations and helping to forge a strategic partnership between the two organizations". The Committee called for this provision to be acted upon without further delay.

The Committee took stock of preparations for the United Nations General Assembly debate on "Interaction between the United Nations, national parliaments and the IPU" — a stand-alone item on the agenda of the General Assembly at its current 66th session. While underscoring the importance of the previous General Assembly resolution (65/123) and the need to further consolidate the gains achieved, it was agreed that there was room for further progress. The Committee encouraged national parliaments to consult on this issue, among themselves and at the national level with their respective foreign ministries, with a view to identifying the main elements of a rich debate at the United Nations and a new and strong General Assembly resolution. It was agreed that the Committee's Advisory Group would further examine this matter at its next meeting, to be held in New York in late November, on the occasion of the 2011 Parliamentary Hearing at the United Nations.

In the morning of 19 October, the Committee held a panel discussion on the topic "The green economy: A breakthrough for sustainable development?" The debate was held in the context of preparations for the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, also known as the Rio+20 Conference. This event, which aims to assess progress in meeting the international commitments on sustainable development adopted by States 20 years ago, was expected to focus on two main themes: the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty reduction; and the institutional framework for sustainable development.

The panel was moderated by Brazilian MP Hugo Napoleão, and featured a prominent group of parliamentarians, United Nations officials, international experts, and representatives of civil society and the private sector. The participants addressed the different meanings and applications of the "green economy", and its attendant green technologies, as well as questions about the conditions required for the concept to fully encapsulate all three dimensions of sustainable development. They also provided a critical perspective on the green economy, particularly from the standpoint of the following three objectives of the broader sustainable development agenda: changing production and

consumption patterns; decoupling economic growth from environmental degradation; achieving equity, poverty reduction and greater well-being for all.

The concept of sustainable development was often confused with that of environmental sustainability, but sustainable development was actually a broader and more complex construct that rests on the fusion of the environmental (quality), social (equity) and economic (prosperity) dimensions into a single policy approach. The sustainable development agenda relates to both developed and developing countries and by most standards remains today largely unrealized. The economy was using up far more resources than could be replaced or preserved and almost all natural assets — forests, oceans and biodiversity — were threatened at the cost of a lower quality of life, and poverty and inequality persisted in spite of an overall increase in total wealth. Given the direct impact of this reality on the lives of citizens all over the world, parliaments and parliamentarians were called upon to play a proactive role in both national policy-making as well as in the international process leading up to Rio+20.

In its last sitting, the Committee discussed preparations for the 2011 session of the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 17/CMP 7), to be held in December 2011 in Durban, South Africa. The session was chaired by Mr. Cedric Frolick, coordinator of preparations for the Durban Conference in the South African Parliament. The Committee was briefed on the current negotiations, challenges and requirements for the conclusion of a global agreement on climate policies that encompassed adaptation, mitigation, finance, technology, forests and capacity-building. The Committee exchanged views on a draft parliamentary message to the United Nations Conference, which should be a succinct but powerful political declaration for both governments and parliaments.

Annex II to the note verbale dated 12 January 2012 from the Permanent Mission of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

BETTER PARLIAMENTS, STRONGER DEMOCRACIES

IPU STRATEGY 2012-2017

Approved by the IPU Governing Council at its 189th session

(Bern, 19 October 2011)

Introduction

The present document contains a strategy for the IPU for the coming five years. It charts a course for the organization's development in three strategic directions, spells out the corresponding objectives and identifies what it hopes to have achieved by the end of the five years.

The document starts by presenting a new mission statement. The statement encapsulates the mission of the IPU in a few words. It is accompanied by an explanation and a slogan.

The mission statement is followed by a vision. The vision expresses where the IPU wants to be in the longer term. It reflects an overall ambitious view of the IPU's future. It aims to rally all stakeholders around a common general aspiration.

Then there are three strategic directions that chart a path for the IPU over the next five years towards the fulfilment of its vision. The strategic directions are inferred from the mission statement. They give priority to three areas of work: democracy and parliaments, international involvement of parliaments and the IPU as an instrument of parliamentary cooperation.

The three strategic directions are interrelated and mutually reinforcing. Parliamentary cooperation is at the centre. It underpins all of the IPU's work. Each strategic direction is composed of three objectives and several sub-objectives.

BETTER PARLIAMENTS, STRONGER DEMOCRACIES
GREATER INTERNATIONAL INVOLVEMENT OF PARLIAMENTS
THE IPU AS A MORE EFFECTIVE INSTRUMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY COOPERATION

The strategy will guide the IPU over the coming five years. A mid-term review of the strategy will take place after two years.

The strategy will be implemented on the basis of priorities. All actions reflected in the plan cannot be done immediately, at the same time, and during the full five-year period. Some are time-bound, others will depend on demand and others still will need to wait pending the identification of resources.

The strategy is not a business plan nor is it a budget document. Nonetheless, it has been drawn up with current economic realities in mind. It will need to be translated into a separate annual or bi-annual work plan and budget. The budget will correlate to a level of income that corresponds to what Members are able to contribute and other revenues the IPU can realistically hope to obtain.

The strategy is based on a careful analysis of the IPU today, the environment in which it operates, the challenges it faces and, most importantly, its considerable comparative advantages. It has been enriched by observations and suggestions from many Member Parliaments, geo-political groups and IPU Committees and has been meticulously worked on by the Executive Committee.

The strategy will provide clarity, focus and understanding within and outside the IPU regarding its future direction and make it possible to plan resources and action.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Mission statement	• The IPU, the world organization of parliaments, is a global forum for parliamentary dialogue, cooperation and action. It advances democracy and assists parliaments and parliamentarians throughout the world to fulfil their mandates.
Vision	• To be universal, dynamic and effective in order to advance democratic culture, values and institutions, as well as the rule of law, through cooperation among parliaments. • To assist parliaments and parliamentarians in all parts of the world to articulate and respond effectively to the needs of the people and their aspirations for peace, human rights, gender equality and development. • To be acknowledged and supported by Member Parliaments in providing a parliamentary dimension in international fora, including the United Nations and other multilateral institutions.
Strategic direction 1 Objectives	• Better parliaments, stronger democracies • Strengthen democracy through parliaments • Advance gender equality • Protect and promote human rights

Strategic direction 2 Objectives	• More international involvement of parliaments • Develop a parliamentary dimension to the work of the United Nations and other multilateral institutions • Build parliamentary support for international development goals • Contribute to peace-building and conflict prevention
Strategic direction 3 Objectives	• The IPU as a more effective instrument of parliamentary cooperation • Achieve universal membership and strengthen engagement with Members • Enhance the IPU's visibility through a modern communications strategy • Improve operational management, governance and internal oversight

WHY A STRATEGY FOR THE IPU?

The IPU has an extraordinarily rich past. It has made major contributions to peace and cooperation. It has facilitated dialogue and understanding across political divides. It has been at the forefront of parliamentary developments and has helped parliaments everywhere cope with globalization and an increasingly inter-dependent world.

Today it is the world's only global forum for parliamentary dialogue and cooperation. It has developed unequalled knowledge and expertise on the role, structure and working methods of national parliaments and it is an effective spokesperson for parliaments at the international level.

Like all organizations dedicated to international cooperation, the IPU faces a number of challenges as it adapts to the realities of the 21st century.

Parliaments in many countries need strengthening to be able to deal effectively with today's agenda. This includes adapting to the realities of globalization and creating capacity in parliament to assume a more active role in relation to international cooperation and multilateral institutions.

As more attention is being devoted by governments and international organizations to strengthening national parliaments, there is a need for greater clarity and support from them for IPU's work in favour of democratic parliaments.

The IPU as an institution must have a clearer profile. It urgently needs to implement a communications strategy, to demonstrate that it has confidence in itself, in what it is and what it wants to do. A comprehensive strategy that charts the course for its development in the next five years will encapsulate that confidence and serve to garner resources and support for the accomplishment of its objectives.

Ultimately, the strategy will help Members build an IPU that is universal, dynamic and effective and able to advance democratic culture, values and institutions through cooperation among parliaments.

MISSION STATEMENT

- The IPU, the world organization of parliaments, is a global forum for parliamentary dialogue, cooperation and action. It advances democracy and assists parliaments and parliamentarians throughout the world to fulfil their mandates.

The IPU facilitates political parliamentary debate, dialogue and cooperation. It promotes and defends democracy and the rule of law. It develops standards, disseminates information on good practices and helps build parliamentary capacity and efficacy. It defends the human rights of members of parliament and promotes respect for universal values, norms and principles. It works in support of gender equality and the participation of women, minorities and indigenous peoples in political and public life. It assists parliaments in coping with a growing international agenda and in contributing a parliamentary dimension to the work of the United Nations and similar multilateral institutions.

In short, the IPU stands for: *Better parliaments, stronger democracies*.

VISION

- To be universal, dynamic and effective in order to advance democratic culture, values and institutions, as well as the rule of law, through cooperation among parliaments.
- To assist parliaments and parliamentarians in all parts of the world to articulate and respond effectively to the needs of the people and their aspirations for peace, human rights, gender equality and development.
- To be acknowledged and supported by Member Parliaments in providing a parliamentary dimension in international fora, including the United Nations and other multilateral institutions.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

1. BETTER PARLIAMENTS, STRONGER DEMOCRACIES

The IPU holds that better parliaments make stronger democracies. The organization has a clear comparative advantage through its parliamentary membership and the work it has carried out over the years to strengthen parliaments, advance gender equality and protect and promote human rights. The IPU's work is focused on parliament, which acts as both a provider and recipient of assistance and as an agent for change. Over the next five years — 2012 to 2017 — the IPU will work with the support of its Member Parliaments to advance three priority objectives: strengthen democracy through parliaments, advance gender equality and protect and promote human rights.

Objective 1.1	**Strengthen democracy through parliaments**

Parliaments are the cornerstone of democracy. They need to be empowered and have the requisite means to carry out their constitutional functions. They must embody core democratic values in their work. The IPU's strategy consists of strengthening parliaments to enable them to contribute to democracy and help meet the aspirations of the people. The IPU pursues an integrated approach: it develops different kinds of tools and applies them to priority thematic areas of work. Parliaments are central to the development and implementation of all activities.

Work area: Information and research — **Sub-objective: Consolidate the IPU as a global resource on parliament and democracy**

The IPU will update and develop the PARLINE database on national parliaments. It will publish a *Global Parliamentary Report* on the state of the world's parliaments on a

regular basis. It will establish a new publishing programme focusing on good practices in parliaments and new and emerging topics in parliamentary development. Thematic activities will include ensuring that parliaments are inclusive of minorities and indigenous people as well as other marginalized sectors of society; encouraging youth participation in the democratic process; promoting the effective use of ICT in parliament; and promoting the International Day of Democracy as an opportunity for parliaments to engage with citizens. The IPU will support the development and consolidation of professional networks for the exchange of information among parliaments. Information and research feeds the IPU's work on standard-setting and technical assistance.

Work area: Standards and guidelines — **Sub-objective: Encourage recognition and implementation of standards for democratic parliaments**

The IPU will promote its criteria for democratic parliaments as outlined in *Parliament and democracy in the twenty-first century: A guide to good practice*. The IPU will encourage parliaments to assess their performance based on these criteria, and will create a mechanism for reviewing parliamentary performance on a voluntary basis, including through peer reviews. It will continue to provide a parliamentary dimension to the International Conference of New or Restored Democracies and will work towards its rapprochement with a similar mechanism in the Community of Democracies. It will develop new standards and guidelines for good practice in parliaments as and when the need arises.

Work area: Technical assistance — **Sub-objective: Strengthen parliaments by providing tailored advice and programmes of assistance**

The IPU will continue to provide advisory services and technical assistance to strengthen parliaments. It will systematically seek to improve the delivery and impact of technical assistance, providing better coordinated and more efficient services to parliaments. It will focus its attention on parliaments in countries emerging from conflict or in transition towards democracy. It will continue to build parliamentary capacity to address key human rights and gender concerns as well as other issues on the global agenda. It will support parliaments' capacity to hold government to account, strengthen their budget and audit functions, enhance transparency and combat corruption. It will strengthen partnerships with like-minded organizations that work to enhance parliamentary development. Technical assistance is underpinned by the IPU's work on research and standards, and lessons learned from technical assistance programmes are fed back into this work.

Objective 1.2 Advance gender equality

Gender equality is a key component of better parliaments. The IPU pursues a strategy that focuses on monitoring and providing support for women's participation in politics, building the capacity of IPU Member Parliaments and assisting parliaments in their gender-related tasks. Activities in this area will build on the parliamentary work of IPU Member Parliaments, the contribution of both men and women, the expertise of former members of parliament and contributions of international partner organizations, including UN-Women.

Work area: Information and research

Sub-objective: Maintain its position as a global reference point for women in politics

The IPU will continue to collect up-to-date information on women's participation in politics. It will undertake research and produce statistics, surveys and reports through online databases (on quotas and statistics on women), websites and the International Knowledge Network of Women in Politics (iKNOWPolitics). It will develop new indicators on women's participation in politics, provide an analysis of emerging issues or trends and specific gender concerns. It will provide information and training materials tailored to the needs of newly elected women parliamentarians.

Work area: Access to and participation in parliament

Sub-objective: Develop national strategies to facilitate women's access to parliament and support women MPs' participation in policy-making

The IPU will help strengthen national frameworks to facilitate women's access to parliament by reviewing legal frameworks that impact on women in politics. The IPU will continue to provide technical assistance and training to women MPs. The programme will incorporate building the capacity of women through the use of ICTs and developing mentorships for newly elected women MPs.

Work area: Gender mainstreaming

Sub-objective: Foster gender-sensitive change in parliament

The IPU has produced the first ever global analysis on gender mainstreaming in parliament and gender-sensitive parliaments. It has mapped the current situation and identified good practices. The IPU will work to develop standards and issue guidelines on gender-sensitive policies and procedures. It will provide capacity-building support to parliamentary bodies that deal with gender equality and women's issues. It will help members of parliament and parliamentary staff to build their capacities in gender mainstreaming and will facilitate the exchange of good practices.

Work area: Respect for women's rights

Sub-objective: Assist parliaments in amending discriminatory laws and strengthening their capacity to address violence against women

The IPU will continue to support parliaments in enhancing their oversight over the governments for effective implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and taking action on violence against women — two key gender and societal concerns. It will continue capacity building with member parliaments to enhance their supervision of the CEDAW reporting process by governments and will focus on discriminatory legislation. With regard to violence against women, it will pay greater attention to legislative reform and strengthening parliamentary oversight to ensure enforcement of legislation. Activities will be directed at building parliamentary capacity. The IPU will provide legislative counselling and policy advice. In all activities, the IPU will ensure that male parliamentarians and parliamentary staff are involved and that men and women work together on gender-related matters. The activities will also consolidate bridges and enhance cooperation between MPs, government agencies, United Nations agencies working on gender, civil society organizations, constituents, media and research centres.

Objective 1.3 Protect and promote human rights

Parliaments and their members are "guardians" of human rights by virtue of their essential legislative and oversight responsibilities to ensure respect for human rights. The IPU helps parliaments assume these responsibilities by protecting the rights of their members and providing them with information, knowledge and training to enable them to take an active part in human rights promotion and protection. Over the next five years, the IPU will bolster these efforts by focusing on the following four priorities:

Work area: IPU Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians

Sub-objective: Enhance the capacity of the IPU Committee to address human rights abuses

The IPU will strengthen the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians and will explore new ways to encourage Member Parliaments to take an active part in helping resolve the cases brought to the attention of the IPU Governing Council. As appropriate, more work will be undertaken to inform and promote concerted action with United Nations mechanisms and the human rights community at large in support of the Committee's work. The Committee will examine action that can be taken to prevent recurrent and cross-cutting concerns in its case-work with a view to helping prevent new violations. It will pay particular attention to how women parliamentarians are affected by human rights abuses.

Work area: Capacity-building

Sub-objective: Strengthen the contribution of parliaments to human rights promotion and protection

The IPU will continue to heighten awareness about the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. It will focus on the role of parliaments in their implementation. As appropriate, it will help ensure that the parliaments of those countries whose national reports are due for examination by the main United Nations human rights committees and the Human Rights Council in the framework of the Universal Periodic Review are involved in preparing the reports, are represented in the delegations presenting them, and subsequently help implement their recommendations. The IPU will work more closely with the United Nations human rights monitoring system and will provide assistance to parliaments wishing to become more involved in it. Work in this area will help identify if and where there is a need for IPU publications in the area of human rights.

Work area: Children's rights

Sub-objective: Help parliaments ensure respect for children's rights

The IPU will raise awareness in parliaments on rights issues and help build their capacity to promote children's rights. Although children are active holders of rights, they often lack the means to ensure respect for them, which is why it is all the more important for parliaments to help ensure such respect. The IPU will focus on strengthening parliaments' involvement in the work of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, building the oversight capacity of parliaments to ensure implementation of legislation on children's rights and supporting child participation in parliaments.

Work area: International humanitarian law	Sub-objective: Promote ratification and implementation of selected humanitarian law conventions

The IPU will focus, through the work of its Committee to promote respect for international humanitarian law, on increasing the ratification and implementation of a selected number of conventions in the area of international humanitarian law. More attention will be paid to the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness and the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

2. GREATER INTERNATIONAL INVOLVEMENT OF PARLIAMENTS

Greater international involvement of parliaments is necessary to help bridge the democracy deficit in international relations. In today's globalized and interconnected world, a more robust parliamentary engagement internationally is desirable to identify possible solutions to major global issues and work towards their implementation. The IPU will continue to develop a parliamentary dimension to international cooperation, endeavour to enhance the transparency and accountability of global processes and mobilize parliamentary action on major global challenges.

Objective 2.1	Develop a parliamentary dimension to the work of the United Nations and other multilateral institutions

The IPU pursues a strategy of mobilizing parliaments around today's major global issues and assisting them as they as they guide governments and hold them to account in implementing corresponding multilateral agreements. The IPU works closely with the United Nations, which reaches out to national parliaments through the IPU. The IPU provides a parliamentary input to the work of the United Nations, as well as the beginnings of parliamentary oversight and accountability. The IPU is establishing a strategic partnership with the United Nations and is seeking to develop similar relationships with the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the Bretton Woods institutions.

Work area: Cooperation with the United Nations	Sub-objective: Enhance the parliamentary dimension to the work of the United Nations

The IPU will continue to provide parliamentary input to the work of the United Nations and seek to have a parliamentary perspective reflected in the latter's decisions. It will convene legislators around the main global issues under consideration by the United Nations. It will encourage the more systematic participation of legislators in national delegations to major United Nations conferences and events and promote a more uniform approach by the United Nations system to national parliaments. It will work with the United Nations towards mobilizing greater support by the international community for building the capacity of parliaments worldwide. The IPU will work with the United Nations in search of a more coherent framework for cooperation and coordination between the two independent institutions. It will work to build support by United Nations Member States for a new cooperation agreement between the United Nations and the IPU to replace the outdated 1996 agreement.

Work area: New United Nations bodies and major United Nations processes	Sub-objective: Develop a strong parliamentary component to the work of the new United Nations bodies and major United Nations processes

The IPU will continue to make a parliamentary contribution to the work of the three United Nations bodies set up in 2005 — the Peacebuilding Commission, the Development Cooperation Forum, and the Human Rights Council — as proposed by the United Nations General Assembly. The IPU will also continue to organize parliamentary meetings in the margins of major United Nations conferences and processes. In 2010, the United Nations General Assembly formally decided to engage more systematically with the IPU in integrating a parliamentary component of and contribution to major United Nations deliberative processes and the review of international commitments. The IPU Committee on United Nations Affairs will assist in developing the IPU's response to this decision.

Work area: WTO and international trade	Sub-objective: Strengthen the parliamentary dimension to the work of the WTO and, more generally, on matters of international trade

The IPU will continue its work with the European Parliament, in cooperation with national parliaments and regional parliamentary assemblies, aimed at providing a parliamentary dimension to the WTO. It will work to build capacity in parliament to monitor WTO activities, maintain dialogue with governmental negotiators, facilitate exchange of information and experiences, and exert a growing parliamentary influence on the direction of discussions and negotiations within the WTO. The IPU will also continue its cooperation with other multilateral institutions working in the field of trade and development, in particular the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

Work area: Global economic governance	Sub-objective: Strengthen parliamentary action on economic and financial issues

The global economic and financial crisis that erupted in 2008 has highlighted the need for a fundamental review and reform of regulatory frameworks and economic policies. The IPU will continue to promote parliamentary debate and action on these issues. It will start promoting greater parliamentary accountability of the Bretton Woods Institutions by pursuing three broad objectives: enhancing the legal authority of parliaments to approve World Bank/International Monetary Fund (IMF) loans; strengthening the role of parliaments in the adoption of Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers and related plans; and increasing the input of parliaments into new global policies designed by the World Bank/IMF, the United Nations and the G20.

Objective 2.2	Build parliamentary support for international development goals

Parliaments have an essential role to play in eradicating poverty and achieving development. Members of parliament can ensure that development plans are informed by the people's priorities, speak on behalf of the poor and other marginalized and vulnerable groups, and ensure national ownership of development policies and programmes. The IPU strategy aims to assist parliaments in achieving this in a few targeted areas linked to the internationally agreed development commitments, in particular the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The strategy will focus on helping parliaments develop stronger oversight tools to monitor all of the MDGs, review their own institutional

processes, and identify the optimal institutional set-up to mainstream the MDGs into their work.

Work area: Maternal, neonatal and child health

Sub-objective: Help parliaments influence maternal, neonatal and child health policies and programmes

The IPU aims to increase the influence of national parliaments on maternal, neonatal and child health. In support of this broad goal, the IPU will raise awareness among parliaments and support the emergence and implementation of related parliamentary action plans. Support for parliamentary action will include providing parliaments with the skills required to develop appropriate legislation, set appropriate budget levels for improved health, and ensure availability and accessibility of adequate and equitable services and the accountability of central government for the delivery of these elements. Other approaches will include knowledge creation and awareness raising regarding the work of parliaments in these areas, as well as strengthening linkages between national, regional and global processes or platforms critical to maternal, neonatal and child health.

Work area: HIV/AIDS

Sub-objective: Provide global leadership for parliamentary work on HIV/AIDS

The IPU will promote parliamentary action in support of the commitments contained in the June 2011 General Assembly Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS and in United Nations Security Council resolution 1983 (2011). This will include enhancing parliamentary leadership and oversight for the HIV response, budgetary allocations and law-making that supports universal access to HIV services and prevents discrimination against people living with or affected by HIV. The IPU will continue to lead the global parliamentary dialogue on the epidemic, with its Advisory Group on HIV/AIDS providing a global parliamentary focal point. The IPU will continue to work closely with the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, to help build parliamentary capacity and channel parliamentary input to international processes for the global AIDS response.

Work area: Development aid

Sub-objective: Help parliaments ensure greater aid effectiveness

The IPU has carried out several case studies in support of international commitments to achieve aid effectiveness (Paris Declaration, Accra Agenda and Busan outcome). The IPU will carry this work forward through dialogue among parliamentarians, helping parliaments to achieve the following key objectives: include parliaments in the decision-making structures set up between donors and the executive in aid-recipient countries; improve parliaments' access to information on aid flows and modalities; build the capacity of parliamentarians and relevant staff to analyse annual budgets and other related documents; and strengthen parliaments' capacity to influence and monitor aid policies.

Work area: Least developed countries (LDCs)

Sub-objective: Mobilize support for implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action

The IPU will follow up on the Parliamentary Forum it held at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDC IV). It will support parliaments in implementing the 2011-2020 Istanbul Programme of Action (IPoA) for the LDCs adopted by that conference. The IPU will raise awareness in parliaments and promote their engagement in the LDC process. It will work to strengthen the parliamentary focal point mechanism and support the creation of a Parliamentary Plan of Action for

parliamentary engagement. To facilitate LDC parliaments' involvement in development issues, the IPU will highlight the links between the IPoA and the achievement of the MDGs.

Work area: Climate change | **Sub-objective: Strengthen parliamentary action on climate change**

The IPU will continue to set up a parliamentary process to accompany the global climate change negotiations. It will complement this work by promoting action by parliaments to integrate climate change and its consequences into their own agenda and work programme by elaborating and approving national climate-related budgets and implementing legislation. The IPU will also promote action by parliaments to reduce their own carbon footprint.

Objective 2.3 Contribute to peace-building and conflict prevention

A parliament that represents all sectors of society and has the requisite powers and means to legislate and hold government to account makes an enormous contribution towards peace and stability. That is why the work the IPU carries out to build better parliaments and stronger democracies is in itself a contribution to peace-building and conflict prevention. The IPU also provides support to parliaments in countries facing or emerging from conflict or under foreign occupation. These activities are often part of IPU's work in cooperation with the United Nations and its Peace-building Commission. They include targeted action to facilitate political reconciliation through parliaments in post-conflict situations and parliamentary diplomacy. In all instances they are complementary to efforts undertaken by other actors, focus on the parliaments, respond to their requests for support and rely on the political support of IPU Member Parliaments.

Work area: Political reconciliation in post-conflict situations | **Sub-objective: Help parliaments become more open to dialogue and inclusive so that they can facilitate reconciliation and security sector governance**

The IPU will continue to provide targeted support to parliaments in post-conflict countries by promoting dialogue within parliament and helping it contribute to national reconciliation and security sector governance. The implementation of these activities will entail capacity-building and advisory services and will draw on the expertise of IPU Member Parliaments and the knowledge of partner organizations directly involved in peace-building. The activities will be results-oriented and based on parliamentary action plans, with the parliaments committing themselves to progressive implementation. The IPU's advisory services will cater to the needs of each parliament, but will focus on ensuring smooth relations with the executive and on codifying the role and rights of the opposition as a means of soothing tensions within and outside parliament.

Work area: Parliamentary diplomacy | **Sub-objective: Facilitate conflict resolution through parliamentary diplomacy**

The IPU offers a privileged space for parliamentary diplomacy. It is a natural and neutral venue for members of parliament from different countries and political factions to exchange views and experiences and discuss conflicts within and between countries. The IPU intends to put this resource more systematically to good use. When internal crises seriously affect or bring national parliamentary business to a halt, the IPU will offer its good offices to help defuse tensions and promote dialogue. Rapid resort to parliamentary

diplomacy may subsequently help identify longer-term needs for capacity-building and advisory services. Similar efforts will be made in regional conflicts where the IPU may have an advantage through its membership. Such involvement would be largely modelled on the work of the Committee on Middle East Questions, which should be strengthened, but in contrast would be time-bound and more flexible and informal in nature. The idea is not to systematically put in place formal structures such as ad hoc committees, which would require substantial additional resources.

3. THE IPU AS A MORE EFFECTIVE INSTRUMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY COOPERATION

The IPU's Strategy for 2012–2017 contains an internal dimension; turning the IPU into a more effective instrument of parliamentary cooperation. It represents a strategic direction for the IPU's development over the next five years because it underpins much of what the IPU hopes to achieve. In order to be able to provide more incisive support to parliaments and assist them in developing their international involvement, the IPU must also improve itself. The following three objectives have been identified:

Objective 3.1 Achieve universal membership and enhance relations with Members

The IPU is a unique global forum for parliamentary dialogue and cooperation. Over the past 10 years, it has modernized its structures, adapting them more closely to those employed by parliaments. For the next five years, the organization needs to bring this process forward in four interrelated areas: making the organization more universal, improving on parliament's participation in IPU meetings, including from a political and gender perspective, making the annual assemblies more effective and better able to meet the demands of its Members, and facilitating greater coherence in parliamentary cooperation.

Work area: Membership — **Sub-objective: Advance towards universal membership**

The IPU will make every effort to achieve universal membership. It will focus on parliaments of small island States in the Caribbean and in the South Pacific. It will pursue efforts to encourage other parliaments that are not yet Members to join, including parliaments in countries that have recently emerged from conflict.

Work area: Participation in activities — **Sub-objective: Strengthen the participation of parliaments in the work of the IPU**

The IPU will encourage parliaments to include in their delegations to IPU meetings members of parliamentary committees dealing with the subject matters that are placed on the IPU's agenda. The knowledge and experience of these MPs can help enrich the discussion for the benefit of all participants; they can put the outcome of those discussions to direct use in their respective committees in parliament; and they can ensure follow-up and implementation of IPU recommendations.

Work area: Parliamentary representation

Sub-objective: Formulate guidelines on gender and political balance in parliamentary delegations

The IPU will assess the existing directives concerning gender balance in parliamentary delegations with a view to further increasing the participation of women parliamentarians. It will develop guidelines for ensuring political balance in delegations attending IPU meetings. The guidelines will seek to encourage better representation of the main political factions in parliament while respecting the basic tenet that all parliaments are sovereign in deciding on the composition of their delegations. The IPU will also examine possible avenues for encouraging better participation of youth.

Work area: Structures and working methods

Sub-objective: Improve IPU structures and working methods

The IPU will continue to strengthen the Assembly and its Standing Committees. It will provide induction material for new participants in IPU activities. It will seek to secure greater support for and participation in the work of the Standing Committees by Member Parliaments, with better preparation, participation in debates and follow-up of outcomes. It will assess the contribution of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians, the Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians and the Gender Partnership Group to advancing gender equality issues with the objective of ensuring more interactive exchanges, greater participation of men and more gender-focused debates. The IPU will include the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians in its Statutes, thereby making it a statutory body. It will issue guidelines to ensure that members are elected on the basis of their capacity to participate effectively in the Committee's work.

Work area: Monitoring implementation

Sub-objective: Ensure better follow-up and implementation of decisions and recommendations adopted by the IPU

The IPU will further improve the existing reporting exercise. It will systematically examine how the content of IPU resolutions can be integrated into the regular programme of work. It will consider what action it can take to help Member Parliaments to follow up on these resolutions. As many of these resolutions contain recommendations to parliaments to ensure implementation of major international conventions, agreements and decisions, the IPU will pay special attention to action to encourage parliamentary implementation of those recommendations.

Work area: Parliamentary cooperation

Sub-objective: Seek greater coherence in global parliamentary cooperation

The IPU will continue to monitor the development of parliamentary cooperation through different formal and informal structures. It will explore avenues for ensuring greater cooperation and a sharing of agendas and experiences with global and regional parliamentary assemblies and organizations.

Objective 3.2 Enhance the IPU's visibility through a modern communications strategy

The IPU needs a communications policy that supports the three strategic directions. It must generate and capitalize on opportunities to publicize the work of parliaments, parliamentarians and the IPU in order to entrench a public perception of the IPU as a unique organization that belongs to parliaments and strives to advance democracy. Putting into effect such a policy will require a re-thinking of how the IPU goes about

communicating with the rest of the world. The policy will seek vigorous outreach towards parliaments. It will entail achieving much more direct communication with members of parliament and publicizing their work both in parliament and at the IPU. It will require significant focus on the organization's website, streamlining its publications and re-orienting its media relations.

Work area: Website

Sub-objective: Modernize the IPU's website and turn it into a dynamic resource for two-way communication with the global parliamentary community

The IPU website will get a new face. It will primarily be about national parliaments and individual parliamentarians, but it must also become the support tool for a knowledge base, a source of information that is unique. It will build on (and reflect) the substantial body of work carried out by the IPU and its Members, in particular the work carried out to strengthen democracy through parliaments, advance gender equality and protect and promote human rights. It must be the reference point for anyone wanting to know about parliaments, from the basics of how they work and what they do, to advanced academic commentary on politics. It must become a site for appealing and digestible data on legislatures in general, trends, changes and innovations, and broader patterns of attitudes to democracy and the nuts and bolts of the machinery that sustains it. In so doing, it will build the recognition that the IPU currently lacks. It will be a tool for communicating with and between parliaments and their members as well as with a broader public. It will be complemented by greater use of the social media.

Work area: Information products

Sub-objective: Create modern information products that meet the needs of Member Parliaments

The IPU will establish a publications policy. It will focus on producing information products that meet the needs of Member Parliaments. It will aim to become a leader in parliamentary information products. It will streamline and, as appropriate, discontinue some publications while launching others. It will develop a major annual report — The Global Parliamentary Report — as a flagship publication for the IPU that will become a primary reference tool on parliaments, their members, and the challenges they face (see section I.1 above). It will produce video materials on the IPU. Specific attention will be given to enhancing the user-friendliness of products, ensuring greater publicity and follow-up and producing versions in Spanish and Arabic.

Work area: Media

Sub-objective: Reorient the IPU's media policy towards outreach

The IPU will continue to network with journalists and correspondents while aiming for greater specialization among those interested in parliamentary politics or particular aspects of the Organization's work. The media policy objective will be to place articles reflecting the work and opinions of the IPU within leading newspapers and secure TV coverage for IPU activities. The IPU will continue to explore options for content-sharing among parliamentary TV channels, the aim being to manufacture an IPU-branded product.

Objective 3.3 Improve operational management, governance and internal oversight

Providing better services to its Members will require modernizing the way the IPU operates. This will entail mainstreaming gender throughout the organization, its policies, programmes and activities. It will also involve ensuring a rights-based approach to all IPU work. Modernization requires reviewing key business practices that impact on cost effectiveness, efficiency, and accountability. The IPU will upgrade its management systems and procedures, in particular in the area of human resources, financial systems and communications. The current challenges faced by the IPU to better serve its Members require a faster response time and flexibility, particularly in the area of communications and finance. The IPU will need to discontinue some functions and establish new ones.

Work area: Gender mainstreaming **Sub-objective: Ensure that gender is systematically mainstreamed throughout the IPU**

The IPU will develop a gender mainstreaming policy and will apply it throughout the organization. Gender mainstreaming is a globally accepted strategy for promoting gender equality. It makes political and development agendas more relevant and effective; acknowledging gender inequalities and addressing them will strengthen the effectiveness of any policy, programme and action. Mainstreaming involves ensuring that gender perspectives and attention to the goal of gender equality are central to all activities — policy development, research, advocacy, dialogue, legislation, resource allocation, and planning, implementation and monitoring of programmes and projects.

Work area: Rights-based approach **Sub-objective: Introduce a rights-based approach in all IPU activities**

The IPU will introduce a rights-based approach to its work. A rights-based approach is a means of protecting and empowering human beings and enhancing the capacity and accountability of public institutions — including parliament — that have an obligation to ensure the respect, promotion and fulfilment of their rights. By introducing a rights-based approach in all its work areas, the IPU will contribute to enhancing the capacity of parliaments to promote and protect human rights.

Work area: Management action plan **Sub-objective: Upgrade IPU management systems and procedures and implement a results-based management system**

The IPU will put in place a real-time financial system to increase the operational efficiency of budget holders. Directors and staff will receive training on planning, budgeting and financial management to make the best use of financial systems. More systematic evaluation of projects and programmes will be carried out. The IPU will implement a results-based management system. The performance evaluation system for staff will be enhanced. The IPU will start integrating modern ICTs throughout its operations. ICT support systems will be put in place where none have existed so far. Databases of contacts will increasingly become a vital support for communications outreach. The IPU will start making more systematic use of video conferencing and facilitate virtual meetings. This will eventually require upgrading the IPU's conference facilities to make "virtual" parliamentary cooperation possible. The IPU will invest in staff training and improve human resources processes.

Work area: Governance and oversight **Sub-objective: Strengthen internal governance and oversight**

With the help of a sub-committee on finance made up of members designated from within the Executive Committee, the IPU will ensure better internal governance and oversight. It will build on best practices in international organizations and will aim to provide expert advice on all financial and risk matters affecting the IPU, oversee the budget and its implementation and assist the Executive Committee in applying and implementing the decisions of the Governing Council on the financial management of the IPU. It will also establish a resource mobilization strategy to ensure that the IPU can count on predictable and stable resources to carry out its work.

CONCLUSION

The IPU is an organization of parliaments. The strategy outlined in this document should help the Members build an IPU that is universal, dynamic and effective and able to advance democratic culture, values and institutions through cooperation among parliaments.

The Members wish to bolster the political impact of the IPU within their Parliaments, within individual countries and worldwide. They seek to reinforce the work of the IPU in support of parliaments and of democracy. Better parliaments make for stronger democracies. The IPU will work to strengthen democracy through parliaments, advance gender equality and protect and promote human rights.

The strategy suggests that the membership can achieve this by intensifying parliamentary cooperation through the IPU. In all three strategic directions, parliaments and their members are the principal actors.

The strategy will be put into effect through selected activities set out in the annual programme of work and its consolidated budget. To a large extent, they will be financed through the core budget. The level of funding through Members' contributions will not increase for the period covered by the strategy. Voluntary funding will have to be found to implement additional activities that are not funded by the core budget.

In its very essence, the strategy seeks to render more effective Member Parliaments' participation in the work of the IPU and their ownership of the organization.

United Nations A/66/662–S/2012/39

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
18 January 2012

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-sixth session
Agenda item 35
Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Security Council
Sixty-seventh year

Identical letters dated 17 January 2012 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith a statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia dated 16 January 2012, in reaction to planned military exercises by Russia (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex issued as a document of the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 35.

(*Signed*) Alexander **Lomaia**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 17 January 2012 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Statement of the Georgian Foreign Ministry in reaction to planned military exercises by Russia

During a meeting with foreign military attachés held in December 2011, the Chief of the Russian Federation's General Staff, General Nikolai Makarov, announced Russia's plans to hold a series of strategic military exercises ("Kavkaz-2012") in September 2012. According to sources within the Russian Ministry of Defence, these exercises will — unlike previous ones — "cover not only the territory of Russia's southern military district, but will also extend to Armenia, Abkhazia and South Ossetia".

Besides forces under the authority of Russia's Ministry of Defence, these exercises will also involve troops belonging to the country's Ministry of Internal Affairs, Federal Security Service, Ministry of Emergency Situations, Federal Protection Service and other law enforcement agencies. The planned exercises also call for the use of all manner of surveillance and communication equipment (including electronic and satellite-based equipment), unmanned aerial vehicles and high-precision weapons.

Russia is deliberately building up its military forces, strengthening its military infrastructure and deploying offensive weapons in Georgia's occupied territories. In doing so, the Russian Government is seeking to instigate a permanent state of tension in Georgia and in the Black Sea region as a whole. The international community should pay due attention to the fact that Russia's foreign policy has undergone no change: the Russian Government continues to adopt aggressive practices, including the demonstration of military force and provocations.

Russia represents a source of destabilization and negative developments in the international arena.

United Nations A/66/663

General Assembly

Distr.: General
19 January 2012
English
Original: Arabic

Sixty-sixth session
Agenda item 18
Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development and the 2008 Review Conference

Letter dated 11 January 2012 from the Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the second annual report of the Office for the Coordination of Foreign Aid of the United Arab Emirates,* which contains data and analysis regarding foreign aid provided by the United Arab Emirates in 2010. Such aid totalled 2.80 billion United Arab Emirates dirhams, or 762,200,000 United States dollars, in the form of donations and loans for charitable development and humanitarian programmes in over 120 countries around the world. The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) is also seized of the document.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly under agenda item 18.

(*Signed*) Ahmed Abdulrahman **Al-Jarman**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates

* The text referred to is on file with the Secretariat and is available for consultation.

12-21046 (E) 200112 200112

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United Nations A/66/664

General Assembly

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19 January 2012

Original: English

Sixty-sixth session
Agenda items 115 (i) and 115 (j)
Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments: appointment of the judges of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal; appointment of the judges of the United Nations Appeals Tribunal

Report of the Internal Justice Council

I. Introduction

1. As part of the new framework for the system of administration of justice within the United Nations, the General Assembly, by its resolution 62/228, established the Internal Justice Council to help "ensure independence, professionalism and accountability" in the new system (see resolution 62/228, para. 35). A central feature of the new system of justice was the creation of two new tribunals, the United Nations Appeals Tribunal and the United Nations Dispute Tribunal. Pursuant to paragraph 37 (b) of that resolution 62/228, the Assembly requires that the Council, as one of its primary tasks, "provide its views and recommendations to the General Assembly on two or three candidates for each vacancy in the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and the United Nations Appeals Tribunal, with due regard to geographical distribution".

2. Currently the Appeals Tribunal has seven judges[1] and the Dispute Tribunal has five judges (three full-time and two half-time). There are also presently two ad litem judges of the Dispute Tribunal whose terms of office, which ended on 31 December 2011,[2] were extended by the General Assembly (see resolution 66/237, para. 42). When the first judges of both Tribunals were appointed, their terms of office were determined by the drawing of lots.[3] Accordingly, three-year terms of office were

[1] The United Nations Appeals Tribunal currently meets for two-week sessions, three times a year.

[2] From July 2009 to June 2011, the United Nations Dispute Tribunal had three ad litem judges, one stationed in New York, one in Geneva and one in Nairobi. The initial term of the ad litem judges was twelve months (from July 2009 to June 2010), this was extended by a further twelve months from July 2010 to June 2011, and then by a further six months from July 2011 to December 2011. The ad litem judge in New York was unable to accept the further six-month extension, therefore there has been no ad litem judge in New York since July 2011.

[3] See article 4(4) of the Statute of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal (resolution 63/253, annex I); article 3(4) of the Statute of the United Nations Appeals Tribunal (resolution 63/253, annex II); and resolution 62/228, para. 45.

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determined for one full-time judge of the Dispute Tribunal (Memooda Ebrahim-Carstens (Botswana)), one half-time judge of the Dispute Tribunal (Goolam Hoosen Kader Meeran (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)) and three judges of the Appeals Tribunal (Jean Courtial (France), Kamaljit Singh Garewal (India) and Mark P. Painter (United States of America)). As their terms of office commenced on 1 July 2009, their three-year terms of office are due to expire on 30 June 2012. Some of the judges were afforded shorter terms of office, through the mechanism of the drawing of lots, in order to protect institutional memory and provide continuity by ensuring that there would be staggered appointments to the Tribunals, so avoiding the problem attendant upon a new full set of judges being appointed for each Tribunal every seven years.

3. It is the understanding of the Internal Justice Council that, in the decision, contained in General Assembly resolution 66/237, to extend the mandate of the three ad litem Dispute Tribunal judges for one year, the Assembly intended for the incumbent ad litem judges to continue in office without the need for re-appointment. This understanding is based, in particular, on the language set out in paragraph 20 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/66/7/Add.6), which is noted in paragraph 42 of the resolution 66/237. The Council notes that this approach achieves the twin objectives of ensuring continuity in the work of the Dispute Tribunal and providing capacity to that Tribunal to deal with the ongoing workload and pending cases.

4. Accordingly, the Council notes that the terms of office of two incumbent ad litem judges (Jean-François Cousin (France), who is based in Geneva and Nkemdilim Amelia Izuako (Nigeria), who is based in Nairobi) now run until 31 December 2012. However, there is no incumbent judge in New York and the present report provides recommendations on candidates for appointment to the ad litem post in New York. The Council also notes that Judge Cousin is a candidate for appointment as a permanent half-time judge of the Dispute Tribunal (see below). If Judge Cousin is appointed to the permanent position, a vacancy will arise in relation to the ad litem position in Geneva. If this happens, the Council will recommend candidates to the General Assembly to replace Judge Cousin as a matter of urgency.

5. The current members of the Council are Sinha Basnayake (Sri Lanka, distinguished external jurist nominated by management), Geoffrey Robertson QC (United Kingdom, distinguished external jurist nominated by staff), Frank Eppert (United States of America, management representative), Jenny Clift (Australia, staff representative) and Justice Kate O'Regan, former judge of the Constitutional Court of South Africa, who serves as chair.

6. During 2011, the Council noted that the three-year terms of office of five judges (as described in para. 2 above), would come to an end in June 2012, and accordingly transmits, in the present report, its recommendations for each vacancy. In its view, although the five judges concerned would be eligible to apply for re-appointment for a further non-renewable term of seven years, the expiry of their terms of office would result in vacancies on the Tribunals as contemplated by paragraph 37 (b) of General Assembly resolution 62/228 through the operation of Articles 4.4 and 3.4 of the Statutes of the UNDT and UNAT respectively.

7. As in the previous selection process (see A/63/489 and Add.1), the Council considered suitable candidates should be identified, who would ensure that the judicial process was independent and professional and delivered accountability. To

that end, the Council decided that a full public process, consistent with paragraph 45 of General Assembly resolution 65/251, should be instituted to identify suitable candidates. Advertisements for the vacancies were placed in mid-June 2011 both online and printed editions of *The Economist* (11 June), *Le Monde* (13 June), *Jeune Afrique* (12 June) and *The Wall Street Journal* (13 June in Europe and Asia, 20 June in the United States of America). A note verbale, dated 13 June 2011, was sent to all permanent missions. Vacancy notices were sent for local circulation to all United Nations information centres and United Nations resident coordinators and to all United Nations judicial institutions. In addition, the Chief Justices of all Member States were informed of the vacancies. Press releases were sent to a range of non-governmental organizations, universities, legal journals, professional associations, other international courts and tribunals and to judges' associations. The closing date for applications was 15 July 2011. The Council expresses its gratitude to the Office of Human Resources Management for its assistance and support in this process.

8. The Council is pleased to report that it received 411 applications from 78 different countries. There were a total of 112 candidates from North America, 34 from Latin America, 106 from Europe, 109 from Africa and 50 from Asia, including Australasia. Of those, 205 were male candidates and 206 female candidates. Very few candidates were unqualified, and given that to qualify under the applicable statutes, candidates for the Appeals Tribunal required 15 years' judicial experience and candidates for the Dispute Tribunal, 10 years, this was an impressive response from experienced sitting and retired judges in jurisdictions around the world. To reduce costs, the Council held several lengthy telephone conferences in early August to consider the applications and other material (including sample judgements), supplied by every applicant in support of their credentials, and to compile a shortlist for interview. To be shortlisted, candidates had to display on paper the qualifications to suggest they would be excellent judges for the Tribunals. Selections were also made bearing in mind the need for geographical distribution and gender balance. In weighing these considerations, the Council noted the current composition of the Tribunals, and the need for the judges to be of high moral character, as specified in the statutes of both Tribunals. Of the three judges of the Dispute Tribunal whose terms of office are not expiring, there are two male judges, one from Mauritius and one from Germany, and a female judge from New Zealand. There are four judges of the Appeals Tribunal whose terms are not expiring: a male judge from Uruguay and female judges from Argentina, Ghana and Ireland.

9. Shortlisted candidates were interviewed by the Council at the offices of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia in The Hague, the Netherlands, in early September 2011. Before the interviews were held, written references were obtained, from two referees, for each candidate. In The Hague, candidates were required to complete a written assessment to test their writing and reasoning abilities, which was followed by an interview lasting approximately 45 minutes. All shortlisted candidates attended. As it did for the previous round of judicial appointments, following the interviews and with permission (which no candidate refused to give), the Council, with the assistance of the International Bar Association, approached the relevant domestic bar associations for confirmation of the integrity of each candidate. No negative reports were received in relation to any of the candidates listed below.

10. As an independent body advising on judicial appointments, the Council believes that its members must not only act impartially, but be seen to do so. In consequence, the Council adopted a policy on recusal during this selection process. It agreed that the internationally accepted standard on recusal should apply. Accordingly, members should stand down from participating in the deliberations in respect of a particular candidate if there was a real risk that a sensible and well-informed observer might reasonably perceive that they were unable to act impartially in respect of a particular candidate. In application of this policy, and with the agreement of other members of the Council, the Chairperson recused herself from the consideration of a judicial colleague from South Africa, and Geoffrey Robertson recused himself from the consideration of a candidate with whom he had close social connections.

11. The Council provides below its views in respect of the candidates it recommends as suitable for appointment to the three vacancies on the Appeals Tribunal, as well as both the full-time vacancy and the half-time vacancy on the Dispute Tribunal. The Council also makes recommendations concerning the ad litem positions.

12. The Council has recommended six candidates for the three vacancies on the Appeals Tribunal, two candidates for each of the full-time and half-time vacancies on the Dispute Tribunal and three candidates for the ad litem position in New York. In the view of the Council, it would be equitable for the General Assembly to make the appointments to the permanent positions on the Dispute Tribunal before making the appointment to the ad litem position, as appointment to a permanent position is clearly more advantageous to the candidates concerned. All the candidates for the ad litem position are also candidates for permanent positions. If it becomes clear that it is necessary for the Council to furnish additional names to the General Assembly because all the candidates for the ad litem position are appointed to permanent positions, the Council will do so as expeditiously as possible.

13. In making its recommendations, the Council has chosen the most outstanding candidates after giving due consideration to gender balance and geographical distribution. It has also taken care not to recommend more than one candidate from any one Member State for the Dispute Tribunal and Appeals Tribunal respectively, as specified by the General Assembly in its resolution 63/253 (para. 57), nor to recommend candidates from States from which there is already a sitting member on the relevant Tribunal. In some cases, this has meant difficult choices have had to be made between outstanding candidates. It is the view of the Council that all the recommended candidates, were they to be appointed, would serve the management and the staff of the United Nations in a manner that will maintain the independence, professionalism and accountability of the new system. The Council has, as the result of its experience in operating this unique system for international recruitment and appointment of judges, a number of recommendations for its improvement and will bring them to the attention of the General Assembly in the next report.

14. The Council would like to thank the United Nations Secretariat for the outstanding support that it has provided to the Council. It would also like to thank all the staff of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, who provided unstinting assistance to the Council during the examination and interview process held at their offices.

II. Profiles of recommended candidates

15. Candidates are listed by Tribunal and vacancy, and then alphabetically by last name.

A. United Nations Appeals Tribunal (three vacancies)

Rosalyn M. Chapman (United States), born in 1943

16. Judge Chapman has recently retired as a United States Magistrate Judge on the United States District Court for the Central District of California, a position which she held from 1995 to 2010. During this time, Judge Chapman adjudicated on a wide variety of matters including civil rights, appeals of decisions taken by administrative agencies and labour and employment issues. Prior to her tenure with the United States District Court, Judge Chapman served from 1977 until 1995 as an administrative law judge in the California Office of Administrative Hearings. This is a specialized administrative court that hears cases arising from decisions of approximately 60 state agencies. Judge Chapman also has experience in the area of labour arbitration gained during her services as a labour arbitrator and consultant from 1980 to 1995 and experience as a legal services attorney during the periods from 1967 to 1972 and from 1973 to 1977. Judge Chapman received her law degree from the Boalt Hall School of Law, University of California, Berkeley, in 1967. Her first language is English.

Moses Chinhengo (Zimbabwe), born in 1955

17. Judge Chinhengo has served as a Judge of the High Court of the Republic of Botswana since March 2004. Prior to his appointment to the bench in Botswana, Judge Chinhengo served as a judge of the High Court of Zimbabwe for 8 years, starting in March 1996. Both of these high courts have unlimited civil and criminal jurisdiction. Judge Chinhengo received a Bachelor of Law Degree (BL) from the University of Rhodesia in 1978, a diploma in legislative drafting from the University of Zimbabwe and a Bachelor of Laws degree (LLB) from the University of Zimbabwe in 1984. Judge Chinhengo is fluent in English.

Jean Courtial (France), born in 1951

18. Judge Courtial was appointed as a judge of the United Nations Appeals Tribunal in 2009. Judge Courtial also serves as a member of the Conseil d'Etat, the Supreme Court of the French administrative judicial system, a position he has held since 1996. He was appointed a Councillor of State in 2008. Prior to being appointed to the Council of State, Mr. Courtial served as a judge on various administrative tribunals. He holds a degree in public administration and administrative law from the National School of Administration (1982) and a diploma in philosophy from Toulouse University (1972). His first language is French and he has a working knowledge of English and Spanish.

Alessandra Greceanu (Romania), born in 1967

19. Judge Greceanu currently serves as a Judge at the Court of Appeal of Bucharest having been appointed in 2002. Judge Greceanu is currently on the Court's Civil Section (IV) and previously sat on the Court's Labour Section. She is

also currently serving as a trainer Judge at the National Institute of Magistracy in labour law and European Union law. Prior to appointment at the Court of Appeal, Judge Greceanu held appointments from 2000 until 2002 with the Tribunal of Bucharest (Civil and Administrative Suit) and from 1993 to 2000 as a first-instance Judge in Judecatoria sector 1, Bucharest. Judge Greceanu received her degree in law from the University of Bucharest in 1993 and received her Certificate from the National Institute for Training of Magistrates in 1994. Judge Greceanu is fluent in English, has a working knowledge of Russian and a basic knowledge of French.

Vagn Prusse Joensen (Denmark), born in 1950

20. Judge Joensen is currently serving as a Judge with the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, having been appointed in 2007. Prior to taking up this appointment, Judge Joensen served from 2002 to 2007 as the Presiding Judge of the Danish High Court (Eastern Division), as an International Judge with the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo from 2001-2002, as a Judge with the Danish High Court from 1994 to 2001, and as a Judge of the City Court of Copenhagen from 1982 to 1994. Judge Joensen received his degree in law from Aarhus University in 1973. He speaks fluent English and has a working knowledge of French.

Richard Lussick (Samoa), born in 1940

21. Judge Lussick is currently serving as a Judge with the Special Court for Sierra Leone, sitting as part of Trial Chamber II, which is hearing the case against Charles Taylor, former President of Liberia. During his service on the bench of the Special Court, Judge Lussick has acted as Staff Appeals Judge (2005-2006), hearing appeals by staff members against administrative decisions of the Registrar or against disciplinary actions taken against them. Prior to his current appointment with the Special Court, Judge Lussick served as Chief Justice of the Republic of Kiribati from 1995 to 2000 and as Judge and Chairman of the Public Service Board of Appeal, Samoa from 1987 through 1995. Judge Lussick received his Diploma in Law (Barristers Admission Board) from the University of Sydney (Law Extension Course) in 1973. Judge Lussick is fluent in English and has a good knowledge of French. Judge Lussick informed the Internal Justice Council that, although he has New Zealand citizenship conferred through the operation of law as a result of his father's New Zealand citizenship, he has never lived in New Zealand and considers himself to be Samoan. The Council has therefore listed him as Samoan.[4]

[4] While the Tribunals' judges are not staff members of the United Nations, in drawing this conclusion, the Internal Justice Council has adopted the approach analogous to that taken in Staff Rule 4.3(b), which is as follows: "When a staff member has been legally accorded nationality status by more than one State, the staff member's nationality for the purposes of Staff Regulations and the Staff Rules shall be the nationality of the State with which the staff member is, in the opinion of the Secretary-General, most closely associated." (see ST/SGB/2011/1).

B. United Nations Dispute Tribunal

1. Full-time vacancy, New York:

Rosalyn M. Chapman (United States), born in 1943

For the profile of Judge Chapman, please see paragraph 16 above.

Memooda Ebrahim-Carstens (Botswana), born in 1954

22. Judge Ebrahim-Carstens is currently a judge on the United Nations Dispute Tribunal in New York, to which she was appointed in 2009. Prior to her appointment to the Dispute Tribunal, Judge Ebrahim-Carstens was appointed to the High Court of Botswana in February 2009, a position that she vacated in June 2009 to join the Dispute Tribunal. She served as a judge of the Industrial Court of Botswana, a Superior Court of Law and Equity that specializes in labour law, from 1997 to 2009 (including as acting judge in 1997 and 1998 and thereafter as a permanent judge). Between her service on the bench of the Dispute Tribunal and the Industrial Court of Botswana, Judge Ebrahim-Carstens has considerable judicial experience in the field of labour law. From 1987 to 1998, she had her own legal practice in Botswana specializing in employment and labour law, human rights, commercial law and matrimonial law. She received her law degree from the City of London Polytechnic Business Law School in 1979. Her first language is English.

2. Half-time vacancy, rotating between New York, Geneva and Nairobi as required:

Jean-François Cousin (France), born in 1944

23. Judge Cousin is currently an ad litem judge of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal in Geneva, to which he was appointed in 2009. Prior to his appointment to the Dispute Tribunal, Judge Cousin served as presiding judge in the Administrative Appeals Court of Marseille. He previously held office as a presiding judge in the Administrative Tribunal of Marseille (from 2004 to 2007 and from 1998 to 2002) as well as serving as a judge in various administrative tribunals. He also served as an adviser to the Supreme Administrative Court of Thailand (in 2002 and 2003); and as an administrative judge in Papeete, French Polynesia (in 1991 and 1992). He obtained a Master's degree in private law from the Faculty of Law of Paris in 1967. His first language is French and he has a good working knowledge of English.

Goolam Hoosen Kader Meeran (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), born in 1943

24. Judge Meeran is currently a Judge of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal (half-time), to which he was appointed in 2009. Prior to his appointment to the Dispute Tribunal, Judge Meeran was Circuit Judge and President of the Employment Tribunals for England and Wales from 2002 until December 2008. Previously, he served as Regional Employment Judge of the Employment Tribunals for the London South Region, from 1997 to 2002 and was acting Regional Employment Judge from 1996 to 1997. He also served as a full-time Employment Judge for England and Wales from 1993 to 1996, and a part-time Employment Judge from 1992 to 1993. In all, he has more than 18 years of judicial experience in employment tribunals (including the Dispute Tribunal). He holds degrees from the University of

Manchester (1969) and the London School of Economics (1970) and a diploma in law (1981). His first language is English.

C. United Nations Dispute Tribunal, New York ad litem position (1 January-31 December 2012)

Rosalyn M. Chapman (United States), born in 1943

For the profile of Judge Chapman, please see paragraph 16 above.

Vagn Prusse Joensen (Denmark), born in 1950

For the profile of Judge Joensen, please see paragraph 20 above.

Richard Lussick (Samoa), born in 1940

For the profile of Judge Lussick, please see paragraph 21 above.

(*Signed*) Kate **O'Regan**
(*Signed*) Sinha **Basnayake**
(*Signed*) Jenny **Clift**
(*Signed*) Frank **Eppert**
(*Signed*) Geoffrey **Robertson**

Annex I

Nationalities of applicants (complete applications received by the deadline)

Nationality	*Number of applicants*
Algeria	3
Angola	1
Argentina	3
Australia	6
Austria	1
Bangladesh	1
Belgium	4
Benin	1
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1
Botswana	4
Brazil	17
Bulgaria	1
Burkina Faso	6
Burundi	3
Cameroon	10
Canada	17
Chad	1
Colombia	1
Congo	6
Costa Rica	4
Côte d'Ivoire	5
Denmark	3
Djibouti	1
Egypt	3
El Salvador	1
France	19
Germany	6
Ghana	5
Greece	1
Guyana	1
India	11
Iraq	2
Ireland	3
Italy	9
Japan	1
Jordan	3

Nationality	*Number of applicants*
Kenya	13
Lebanon	3
Lithuania	1
Madagascar	1
Malawi	3
Mali	4
Malta	1
Mauritania	1
Mexico	2
Monaco	1
Mozambique	1
Nepal	1
New Zealand	5
Nigeria	9
Norway	3
Oman	5
Pakistan	4
Philippines	4
Poland	2
Portugal	4
Republic of Korea	1
Republic of Moldova	1
Romania	15
Russian Federation	1
Samoa	1
Senegal	3
South Africa	8
Spain	11
Sri Lanka	2
Sweden	1
Switzerland	2
Togo	4
Trinidad and Tobago	4
Tunisia	2
Uganda	4
Ukraine	1
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	14
United Republic of Tanzania	4
United States of America	95

Nationality	*Number of applicants*
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	1
Zambia	1
Zimbabwe	2
Total	**411**

Annex II

Curricula vitae

Rosalyn M. Chapman (United States of America)

Date of birth 16 May 1943

Education

1980	Labor Arbitrator certificate, Institute of Industrial Relations, University of California, Los Angeles
1967	J.D., University of California, Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law
1964	B.A. cum laude, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Professional experience

1995-2010	United States Magistrate Judge, United States District Court for the Central District of California
1977-1995	Administrative Law Judge, State of California, Office of Administrative Hearings
1980-1995	Labor Arbitrator and Consultant
1973-1977	Legal Services Attorney
1972-1973	Lecturer, School of Law, University of California at Los Angeles
1967-1972	Legal Services Attorney

Other activities

California State Bar Member #43073

2005-present	International Association of Women Judges, Member
2008-2010	Federal Magistrate Judges Association, Board of Directors
2000-2006	Administrative Office of United States Courts, Advisory Group of Magistrate Judges
2002-2005	Federal Bar Association, Los Angeles Chapter Board Member
1999-2002	California-State Federal Judicial Council, Ninth Circuit representative

State Bar of California, Equal Access to Justice Commission
Ex officio member 1998-1999, 2003-2008
Member (1999-2003)

State Bar of California, Public Law Section
Chair (1983-84)
Executive Committee (1981-83)

University of California, Boalt Hall School of Law Alumni Association,
Executive Committee, Vice-President (1996-1997)
Board of Directors (1993-1997)

Los Angeles County Bar Association, Administrative Law Committee, Chair (1980-84)
Labor Law Section, Symposium Planning Committee (1990-91)
Conference of Delegates, Member (1981-84, 1990-91)

Santa Monica Bar Association, Board of Trustees (1984-86)

Languages

English (fluent), French

Moses Chinhengo (Zimbabwe)

Date of birth 29 October 1955

Present positions

Judge, High Court of Botswana; Commissioner for Zimbabwe International Commission of Jurists

Education

1984	Bachelor of Laws (LLB), University of Zimbabwe
1983	Diploma in Legislative Drafting, University of Zimbabwe
1978	Bachelor of Law Degree (BL), University of Rhodesia

Professional experience

2004 to date	Judge, High Court of Botswana
2008 to date	Commissioner for Zimbabwe International Commission of Jurists
1996-2004	Judge, High Court of Zimbabwe
1994-1996	Practising Attorney, Kadandara, Mhiribidi and Chinhengo, Legal Practitioners, Harare, Zimbabwe
1991-1994	Company Secretary, Fidelity Life Assurance Company, Harare
1989-1991	Assistant Corporate Secretary, Zimbabwe Development Corporation, Harare
1983-1989	Chief Law Officer, Department of Legislative Drafting, Ministry of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs, Zimbabwe
1980-1982	Assistant Secretary and Head of Legal Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Zimbabwe
1979-1980	Various portfolios in the reinsurance and insurance industry - Munich Reinsurance Company of South Africa Johannesburg, South Africa; Lesotho National Insurance Company, Maseru, Lesotho

Other activities

2006	Annual Southern African Development Community Lawyers Association Conference, Harare, Zimbabwe
1989	Regional Forum on the Law of Intellectual Property, Cairo, Egypt
1988	Country Loan Negotiation African Development Bank, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire
1981	International Commission of Inquiry into the Crimes of the Racist and Apartheid Regime in Southern Africa, Luanda, Angola

1980-1987	Head of Delegation/Delegate, Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea and the Preparatory Commission for the International Sea-Bed Authority and for the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, Geneva, New York and Kingston, Jamaica

Languages

English

Jean Courtial (France)

Date of birth 1 October 1951

Present positions

Judge of the United Nations Appeals Tribunal; Councillor of State (Council of State), France

Education

1982	National School of Administration
1972	Diploma in Philosophy, Toulouse University, France

Professional experience

2009	Appointed Judge of the United Nations Appeals Tribunal
2008	Appointed Councillor of State (Council of State)
1996-2008	Maître des Requêtes (Master of Petitions) Council of State
1992-1996	Judge, Administrative Appellate Court, Lyon
1988-1992	Judge, Administrative Tribunal, Marseille
1986-1988	Senior Officer, Ministry of Finance
1982-1986	Judge, Administrative Tribunal, Marseille
1980-1982	National School of Administration
1973-1980	Officer in the Ministry of Education

As a judge of the Tribunal and the Court, and as a member of the Council of State, he was sometimes in the position of a judge rapporteur who writes judgements, and other times in the position of the Government commissioner (judge responsible for stating, publicly and independently, an opinion on the case before the court and proposing a solution)

Other activities

President of the Western European Union Appeals Board (2010-2011)

Part-time judge rapporteur (decision writer) of the French Constitutional Council (2001-2004)

Legal adviser of the French administration of civil aviation and member of the legal committee of the International Civil Aviation Organization (1998-2002)

Associated Professor of Law, Lyon University (1994-1999)

Knight of the National Order of Merit

Knight of the Legion of Honour

Languages

French (first language), English (good knowledge) and Spanish (good knowledge)

Jean-François Cousin (France)

Date of birth 28 May 1944

Present position

Judge (ad litem) of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal

Education

1968	Paris Institute of Political Studies
1967	Master's degree in private law, Faculty of Law of Paris

Professional experience

Since 2009	Judge (ad litem) of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal in Geneva
2008-2009	Presiding judge of a chamber of the Administrative Appeals Court of Marseille, specialist in urban law
2004-2007	Presiding judge of a chamber of the Administrative Tribunal of Marseille, specialist in civil service disputes. Chairman of regional civil service disciplinary committee
2002-2003	Consultant to the President of the Administrative Supreme Court of Thailand, responsible for training new Thai judges
1998-2002	Presiding judge of a chamber of the Administrative Tribunal of Marseille, specialist in public market cases
1996-1998	Deputy Governor (Sous Préfet), Saint-Laurent du Maroni, French Guyana
1995	Judge, Administrative Tribunal of Marseille
1993-1995	Deputy Governor (Sous Préfet), Segré, Maine et Loire
1991-1992	Judge, Administrative Court of Papeete, French Polynesia
1988-1990	Judge, Administrative Court of La Réunion
1983-1987	Administrative judge in Nice and Marseille
1968-1983	Supply Officer in the French Navy (two years of which in Madagascar)

Languages

French (first language) and English (read, write, speak and understand easily)

Memooda Ebrahim-Carstens (Botswana)

Date of birth 24 May 1954

Present position

Judge of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal (New York), current President of the Dispute Tribunal (2011-2012)

Education

1995-2011	Various postgraduate seminars, courses and certificates including in arbitration, negotiation skills, women and human rights law, labour and employment law, international labour standards, legal philosophy and legal writing and analysis
1985	Admitted to practise at the Botswana Bar
1983	Degree of Utter Barrister, called to the Bar of England and Wales, Lincoln's Inn, London
1979	BA (Hons) Business Law Degree, City of London Polytechnic (now London Metropolitan University), United Kingdom
1975	Part 1 of BA Economics Degree, University of Botswana Lesotho and Swaziland, Gaborone campus

Professional experience

From July 2009	Judge of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal (New York) and President of the Dispute Tribunal (2011-2012)
2009	Judge, High Court of Botswana
1999-2009	Judge, Industrial Court of Botswana (labour court)
1997-1998	Acting Judge, Industrial Court of Botswana
1987-1998	Self-employed attorney in own practice, practised at the Bar of Botswana in all aspects of civil and criminal law, specializing in employment and labour law, human rights, commercial law and matrimonial law
1985-1987	Legal Professional Assistant/Practice Manager for L. S. Walia, Attorneys in Francistown, Botswana
1983-1984	Professional Assistant at Manghnani and Garland-Wells, Solicitors, London
1980	Vacation work, Radia and Co., Solicitors, Kilburn, London

Other former activities and positions

Member of the Law Reporting Committee for Botswana Law Reports — selecting and grading judgements of the Botswana Court of Appeal, High Court and Industrial Court for publication in Botswana Law Reports and the Southern African Legal Information Institute website

Presiding Appeal/Labour Court Judge at University of Botswana Law School Moot Court

Member of the Chief Justice's Working Committee on Judges' Remuneration and Pensions for reporting back to Presidential Commission on the Review of Public Service Salaries in Botswana

Executive Officer, Pupillage and Legal Education Committee of the Law Society of Botswana — promoting continuing legal education programme for lawyers, preparing, setting and marking postgraduate examination

Membership Secretary, Mansfield Law Society, City of London Polytechnic

Member of the Law Society and Bar Association of England and Wales

Numerous lectures and presentations in Botswana and abroad (including at the International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization, Turin, Italy; and for the Southern Africa Litigation Centre, in Pretoria), on topics relating to the Industrial Court of Botswana, labour law, international labour standards, grievance handling and dispute resolution, gender issues in the workplace, children's rights, women and development, ethical standards, the Civil Courts and traditional Customary Courts of Botswana

Board Member, Water Utilities Corporation, one of Botswana's major public utility parastatal corporations

Trustee of Y Care Charitable Trust, Gaborone

Trustee, Supa Ngwao Museum, Francistown

Executive Officer and founding member, Francistown Consumer Action Group

Languages

English (fluent, first language), Setswana, Urdu

Alessandra Greceanu (Romania)

Date of birth 29 April 1967

Present position

Judge at the Bucharest Court of Appeal, Section for Labour Law and Section IV Civil Suit

Education

2005	Participating at the Closing Conference of the Phare Programme RO/02/IB/JH-10 "Continuation of the Assistance to the Development of the National Institute of the Magistracy (NIM) and to the Training Center for Clerks (TCC)" — Diploma of Trainer judge in labour law
2001	Master Course in Human Rights — specialization "Refugee Law"
1994	National Institute for Training of Magistrates, Postgraduate Course (Certificate)
1993	University of Bucharest, The Faculty of Law (Diploma)
1992	Erasmus University (Netherlands), Competence Certificate in Commercial Law and International Private Law
1992	International Institute for Human Rights, Competence Certificate

Professional experience

2005-2010	Trainer judge at the National Institute of Magistrates in labour law and European Union law
February 2010	Trainer at the Romanian European Institute in the field of European Union law
2004-2011	Judge at the Court of Appeal of Bucharest-Civil Section IV and trainer judge at the National Institute of Magistracy in labour law and European Union law
2002-2004	Judge at The Court of Appeal of Bucharest, Labour section
2000-2002	Judge at the Tribunal of Bucharest, Civil and Administrative Suit
2002	Expert in Law at the Ministry of Justice, Governmental Agent for European Court of Human Rights Directorate
1993-2000	Judge at the first instance, Judecatoria sector 1, Bucharest

Other activities

Lecturer, Summer School on Refugee Law (2011)

Judge Expert, round table on "Men against violence — women for peace" organized in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (2010)

Member of Romanian Team (selected by the Superior Council of Magistracy), Simulated Trial Contests organized in The Hague, the Netherlands (2007, 2009)

Lecturer, Summer School in Asylum and Migration organized by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Romania and the national Police Academy (2010)

Lecturer, "Role of judges in ensuring quality of asylum decisions" training organized by UNHCR in Romania (2009)

Lecturer, seminar on "Capacity-building for refugee Judges and the administrative authorities from Republic of Moldova" organized by UNHCR

Lecturer, seminar on "Capacity-building for Judges in the field of return" organized by the Superior Council of Magistracy and the Office of the National Council of Justice of Hungary

Languages

Romanian (first language), English, Russian, French

Vagn Prusse Joensen (Denmark)

Date of birth 6 July 1950

Present position

Vice-President/Judge of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, Arusha, Tanzania

Education

1973	Degree in law, Aarhus University, Denmark
1966	Secondary school (gymnasium), Esbjerg, Denmark

Professional experience

Since November 2011	Vice-President of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda
Since 2007	Judge with the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda
2002-2007	Presiding Judge of the Danish High Court (Eastern Division)
2001-2002	International Judge, United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo
1994-2001	Judge, Danish High Court, Eastern Division
1982-1994	Judge, City Court of Copenhagen
1980-1982	Magistrate, City Court of Ballerup (part-time)
1978-1982	Legal officer, Danish Ministry of Justice
1978-1979	Associate Prosecutor, Danish High Court, Eastern Division (part-time)
1977	Associate Prosecutor, Gladsaxe district
1976	Magistrate, City Court of Hvidovre
1974-1975	Legal officer, Danish Ministry of Justice
1974-1976	Practising lawyer
1973	Legal officer, Military Prosecutor's Office, Aarhus (mandatory military service)

Other activities

Chair of the Rules Committee of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (since 1 June 2007)

Vice-chair/chair of the Dispute Board of the Danish Ministry of Commerce and Industry (1997-2001)

Chair of Tenancy Dispute Board (1985-2000)

Lecturer, Copenhagen University (1978-1980)

Lecturer, Social Workers High School (1976–1977)

Lecturer, Aarhus University (1973)

Language skills

English (proficient), French

Richard Lussick (Samoa)

Date of birth 8 June 1940

Present position

Judge of the Special Court for Sierra Leone

Education

1996	Fellow, Commonwealth Judicial Education Institute
1986	Admitted as a Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Samoa
1974	Admitted as a Barrister of the High Court of Australia
1973	Admitted as a Barrister of the Supreme Court of New South Wales, Australia
1973	Dip. Law (Barristers Admission Board) University of Sydney Law Extension Course — completed course in minimum time with 6 distinctions

Professional experience

2004-present	Judge, Special Court for Sierra Leone
	Presiding Judge of Trial Chamber II from January 2006 to January 2007 and from January 2009 to January 2010
	Staff Appeals Judge from May 2005 to May 2006
2002-2004	Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Samoa
2000-2002	Barrister, Solicitor and Consultant, Sapolu, Lussick, Barristers, Solicitors and Notaries (Samoa)
1995-2000	Chief Justice of the Republic of Kiribati
1987-1995	Judge and Chairman of the Public Service Board of Appeal, Samoa
	Chairman of the Public Service Board of Appeal (1988-1995)
1986-1987	Parliamentary Counsel, Office of the Attorney-General, Samoa
1973-1986	Barrister-at-Law, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia

Other activities

Vice-President (Pacific Region) Commonwealth Magistrates' and Judges' Association (1997-2000)

Member of the Executive Committee of the Pacific Judicial Education Project (1997-2001)

Member of the Commonwealth Reference Group for Gender Equality (1996-present)

Council Member, Commonwealth Magistrates' and Judges' Association (1994-1997)

New South Wales Bar Association (Associate Member) (1973-present)

Samoan Law Society (Member) (1986-present)

Languages

Fluent in English, fair knowledge of French

Goolam Hoosen Kader Meeran (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

Date of birth 12 April 1943

Present position

Judge of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal (half-time)

Education

1982	Bar finals; called to the Bar, Gray's Inn
1981	Diploma in Law
1970	MSc (Econ), London School of Economics; Masters in Social Psychology
1969	BA Hons, Psychology, University of Manchester, Upper second class

Professional experience

2009-present	Judge of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal (half-time)
2009-present	Deputy Judge of the Upper Tribunal (United Kingdom)
2002-2008	Appointed Circuit Judge and President of the Employment Tribunals (England and Wales)
1997-2002	Regional Employment Judge, London South Region
1996-1997	Acting Regional Employment Judge, London South Region
1993-1996	Full-time Employment Judge (England and Wales)
1992-1993	Part-time Employment Judge (England and Wales)
1986-1993	Practice at the Bar specializing in employment law, mainly in discrimination
1982-1986	One of four directors of the Commission for Racial Equality
1977-1982	Principal Complaints Officer, Commission for Racial Equality (with a 20-month gap to do the Bar conversion course and Bar finals)
1973-1977	Principal Conciliation Officer, Race Relations Board (mediating and conciliating complaints of racial discrimination in both the employment and non-employment fields)
1970-1973	Conciliation Officer, Race Relations Board

Other activities

Awarded a Knighthood "For Services to the Administration of Justice" (2009)

Founder member of the Ethnic Minorities Advisory Committee of the United Kingdom Judicial Studies Board (1991-1996)

Member of the Tribunals Committee of the Judicial Studies Board. Reappointed in 2003 following a public advertisement. The appointment has been continuous since

then and will end shortly, with the establishment of the Judicial College (1996-2012)

Judicial Studies Board trainer on equal treatment, targeted at judicial office holders

Member of the Courts and Diversity Working Group set up by the Department of Constitutional affairs to commission research into a range of equality-related issues affecting members of minority ethnic groups in the courts and tribunals in the United Kingdom (1989)

Judicial member on judicial selection panels, mainly, but not exclusively, in the employment tribunals

Member of the Working Party on part-time salaried appointments for the judiciary (2002-2004)

Member of the reconstituted Employment Tribunals System Task Force set up by the sponsoring Government department to monitor and advise on the effectiveness of the legal and administrative arrangements for resolving and determining employment disputes (2002-2005)

Introduced a pilot programme, offering judicial mediation and member of the project board monitoring its effectiveness (2006)

Introduced an effective judicial mediation programme (2007-2008)

Judicial member of Sino-British cooperative project on dispute resolution mechanisms in employment relations. This involved a series of six visits to China, participating in several plenary conferences and in devising and delivering suitable training programmes to judges and arbitrators through a combination of lectures, small group discussion and role-playing (2004-2007)

Working collaboratively with the president of the Malawi Labour Court on practice and procedure in the resolution and, where appropriate, the judicial determination of individual employment disputes (2006-2009)

Member of the Employment Tribunals System Steering Board, which replaced the Task Force (2005-2008)

Judicial representative of two separate steering groups advising the Minister on changes to the Employment Tribunals Regulations and Rules of Procedure (2002-2008)

Chair of the Employment Tribunals National User Group (2002-2008)

Member of the Judicial Appointments Commission's advisory group on selection procedures, which had the remit of ensuring that the recruitment process operated in a manner that did not disadvantage any particular candidate (2006-2008)

Member of the Judicial Appointments Commission's Diversity Forum, concerned with the question whether the existing recruitment and selection procedures for judicial appointments were either directly or indirectly discriminatory against candidates from various underrepresented groups and if so, to propose measures to redress the historical imbalances (2006-2008)

Language skills

English (fluent)

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General Assembly

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Sixty-sixth session
Agenda item 146
Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

Updated financial position of closed peacekeeping missions as at 30 June 2011

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report provides information on the updated financial position of 23 closed peacekeeping missions as at 30 June 2011.

For the 18 missions with cash surpluses, the Secretary-General recommends the retention of the surplus cash in order to provide liquidity for the active peacekeeping missions in the light of the recent experience of cross-borrowing from the closed peacekeeping missions.

For the five missions with cash deficits, the Secretary-General proposes some options for the consideration of the General Assembly, in order to address the issue of outstanding dues to Member States, as requested by the Assembly in its resolution 65/293.

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I. Introduction

1. The present report provides updated information on the financial position of the following closed peacekeeping missions for which final performance reports have already been issued: Military Observer Group of the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala (MINUGUA); United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic (MINURCA); United Nations Operation in Burundi (ONUB); United Nations Observer Group in Central America (ONUCA) and United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador (ONUSAL); United Nations Operation in Mozambique (ONUMOZ); United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) and United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone (UNOMSIL); United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM) and United Nations Observer Mission in Angola (MONUA); United Nations Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group (UNIIMOG); United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM); United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH); United Nations Mission in Haiti (UNMIH); United Nations Military Liaison Team in Cambodia (UNMLT); United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (UNMOT); United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia (UNOMIL); United Nations Observer Mission Uganda-Rwanda (UNOMUR) and United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR); United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM); United Nations Peace Forces (UNPF); United Nations Preventive Deployment Force (UNPREDEP); United Nations Support Mission in Haiti (UNSMIH); United Nations Transition Mission in Haiti (UNTMIH) and United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti (MIPONUH); United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC); United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium (UNTAES) and Civilian Police Support Group; United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET) and United Nations Mission of Support in East Timor (UNMISET); and United Nations Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG).

2. By its resolution 65/293 on closed peacekeeping missions, the General Assembly decided to return $70,600 to the Government of Kuwait and requested the Secretary-General to return 78.01 per cent of the $230,745,000 net cash available for credit to Member States as at 30 June 2010, in the amount of $180 million, based on the scale applicable to each mission's last assessment. Accordingly, credit returns to Member States of $180,070,600 were recorded as at 30 June 2011. Annex I to the present report contains the status of unpaid assessments, accounts payable to Member States and other liabilities of the closed peacekeeping missions as at 30 June 2011.

3. Following the credit returns, the net cash available for return to Member States, in 18 of the 23 peacekeeping missions covered in the present report, decreased to $27,562,000 as at 30 June 2011, as set out in table 1 and explained more fully in table 2.

Table 1

Consolidated net cash position of ONUB, ONUCA/ONUSAL, ONUMOZ, UNAMSIL/UNOMSIL, UNAVEM/MONUA, UNIIMOG, UNIKOM, UNMIBH, UNMIH, UNMLT, UNMOT, UNOMIL, UNOMUR/UNAMIR, UNPF, UNPREDEP, UNTAES/Civilian Police Support Group, UNTAET/UNMISET and UNTAG as at 30 June 2011

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Description	*Amount*
Cash assets	284 029
Less: other liabilities	256 467
Net cash available for credit to Member States as at 30 June 2011	**27 562**

Table 2

Net cash available for credit to Member States as at 30 June 2011

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Description	*Amount*
Net cash available for credit to Member States as at 30 June 2010	230 745
Return to Member States as per resolution 65/293, paras. 5 and 6	(180 071)
Balance of net cash available	**50 674**
Increase in cash loaned to active missions as at 30 June 2011, compared to 30 June 2010[a]	(29 500)
Interest income earned from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011	6 396
Other income and prior-period adjustments	(8)
Net cash available to Member States as at 30 June 2011	**27 562**

[a] Cash loaned to active missions as at 30 June 2010: $12,000,000; cash loaned to active missions as at 30 June 2011: $41,500,000.

4. The composition of the net cash balance of $27,562,000 is broken down by mission in table 3.

Table 3

Closed peacekeeping missions with net cash balances as at 30 June 2011

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Mission	*Amount*
ONUB	541
ONUCA/ONUSAL	98
ONUMOZ	15
UNAMSIL/UNOMSIL	578
UNAVEM/MONUA	9 189
UNIIMOG	89
UNIKOM	62

Mission	*Amount*
UNMIBH	366
UNMIH	9 901
UNMLT	4
UNMOT	66
UNOMIL	101
UNOMUR/UNAMIR	9 901
UNPF	(4 265)
UNPREDEP	246
UNTAES/Civilian Police Support Group	273
UNTAET/UNMISET	156
UNTAG	241
Total	**27 562**

5. The amount of $27,562,000 shown in tables 1 to 3 does not take into account $10,816,000 owed by two closed peacekeeping missions ($7,366,000 by UNSMIH/UNTMIH/MIPONUH and $3,450,000 by MINURCA) and another $41,500,000 owed by two active peacekeeping missions, including $20,500,000 by the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) and $21,000,000 by the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK), which remained unpaid as at 30 June 2011. As at 18 January 2012, the outstanding loans owed by active peacekeeping missions totalled $35,000,000, including $8,000,000 by MINURSO, $5,000,000 by the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) and $22,000,000 by UNMIK.

6. Five of the peacekeeping missions covered in the present report had cash deficits totalling $86,814,000 as at 30 June 2011, owing to outstanding payments of assessed contributions, as shown in table 4.

Table 4

Consolidated net cash position of the MINUGUA Military Observer Group, MINURCA, UNOSOM, UNPF, UNSMIH/UNTMIH/MIPONUH and UNTAC as at 30 June 2011

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Amount*
Cash assets	386
Less: liabilities	87 200
Operating deficit as at 30 June 2011	**(86 814)**

7. The liabilities included loans amounting to $23,636,000 owed to closed peacekeeping missions ($10,816,000) and to the Peacekeeping Reserve Fund ($12,820,000). The operating deficit of $86,814,000 is broken down by mission in table 5.

Table 5
Closed peacekeeping missions with cash deficits as at 30 June 2011
(Thousands of United States dollars)

Mission	*Amount*
MINUGUA Military Observer Group	(125)
MINURCA	(23 823)
UNOSOM	(15 453)
UNSMIH/UNTMIH/MIPONUH	(7 279)
UNTAC	(40 134)
Total	**(86 814)**

II. Cash requirements of the Organization

8. As a result of the inherent unpredictability of receipts of assessed contributions, liquidity in peacekeeping missions is volatile, with cash surpluses of closed missions remaining the only source for alleviating the cash shortages for active peacekeeping operations. In accordance with financing resolutions of the General Assembly, notifications are issued to Member States for their assessed contributions to active peacekeeping missions up to the end of the mandate period for each mission as authorized by the Security Council. Experience has shown that there is a significant time lag, often ranging from about 60 to 120 days, between the issuance of notifications to Member States and the receipt of assessed contributions. Pending the payment of assessed contributions, any cash shortfalls for active missions have to be met by loans from closed peacekeeping missions.

9. As a result of outstanding assessments in the special accounts of some active missions, there has been a continuing need to borrow from closed missions. Cross-borrowing was required in the 2009/10 financial period for three active operations, namely, MINURSO, the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT) and the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) for a total of $30 million. Cross-borrowing increased to $88.9 million in the 2010/11 financial period for four active operations, namely, MINURSO, UNFICYP, UNMIK and the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO). Cross-borrowing of $76.5 million from the accounts of closed peacekeeping operations has been required so far during the 2011/12 financial period for six active missions, namely, MINURSO, UNMIK, UNMIT, UNFICYP, the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) and the United Nations Support Office for the African Union Mission in Somalia (UNSOA). Furthermore, the amount required for cross-borrowing by active missions peaked at $93 million in September 2011, compared to a peak of $47.5 million during the 2010/11 financial period. The volume of borrowings, settlements and the peak levels of borrowings are reflected in annex II from July 2008 to January 2012, and in annex III from July 2007 to January 2012.

10. In the light of the reduced net cash balance available for return to Member States as at 30 June 2011, compared to 30 June 2010, and the recent experience of an increase in the peak level of borrowing, it is proposed that the net cash balance of

$27.6 million available in 18 closed missions as at 30 June 2011 be retained. This net cash balance, combined with the $41.5 million borrowed by active missions as at 30 June 2011, could provide $69.1 million of cross-borrowing capacity to manage cash shortfalls in active peacekeeping operations.

III. Outstanding dues to Member States in cash deficit missions

11. In its resolution 65/293, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit, for its consideration and approval, concrete proposals and alternatives to address the issue of outstanding dues to Member States from closed peacekeeping missions that are in net cash deficit. As at 30 June 2011, $63.125 million was owed to troop- and police-contributing countries in closed missions with cash deficit. A summary of the outstanding claims is contained in annex IV.

12. The ideal approach for the resolution of the outstanding claims would be for Member States that are in arrears in their payments to closed peacekeeping missions to pay those contributions expeditiously, as called for in resolution 65/293. As requested by the General Assembly in the same resolution, a few alternatives are also proposed below for its consideration.

13. As at 30 June 2011, the unencumbered balance and other income in the special account for the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) amounted to $335.5 million. A portion of the available balance could be utilized as a loan to the closed missions with cash deficits in order to settle the $63.1 million owed to troop- and police-contributing countries. This would, however, preclude the credit of $63.1 million to all the Member States against the 2012/13 assessments relating to this special account.

14. In a variation of the option presented in paragraph 13 above, a portion of the available balance in the special account for UNAMID could be transferred permanently to the closed missions with cash deficits in order to settle the $63.1 million owed to troop- and police-contributing countries. This would also preclude the credit of $63.1 million to all the Member States against their 2012/13 assessments relating to this special account. In this option, the closed missions would not owe any funds to UNAMID.

IV. Actions to be taken by the General Assembly

15. **The actions to be taken by the General Assembly are:**

(a) **To take note of the present report;**

(b) **To approve the retention of the net cash balance of $27.6 million available in 18 closed peacekeeping missions in the light of the experience regarding cash requirements of the Organization during the 2010/11 and 2011/12 financial periods;**

(c) **To consider the proposed options for the settlement of the outstanding dues to Member States in closed peacekeeping missions with cash deficits.**

Annex I

Unpaid assessments, accounts payable to Member States and other liabilities of closed peacekeeping missions as at 30 June 2011

(Thousands of United States dollars)

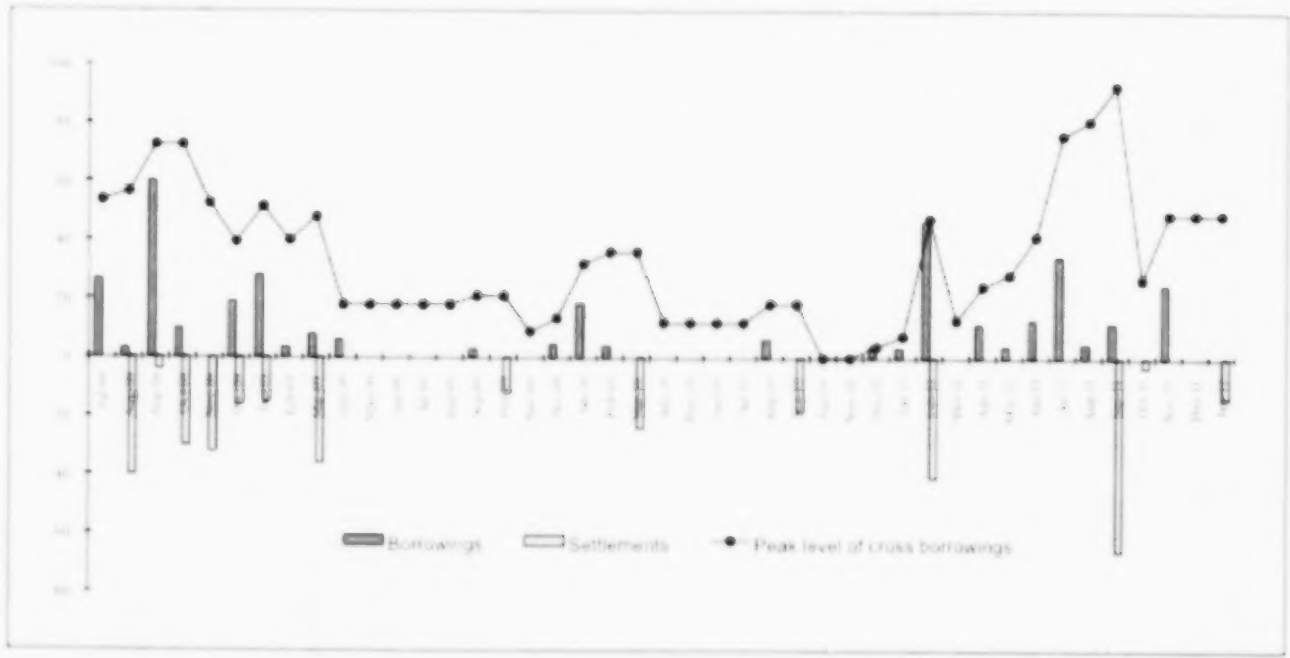
Mission	*Unpaid assessments*	*Accounts payable to Member States*[a]	*Other liabilities*
MINUGUA Military Observer Group	145		125
MINURCA	35 546	7 480	16 386
ONUB	811	3 314	986
ONUCA/ONUSAL	317	3 958	
ONUMOZ	16 713	928	
UNAMSIL/UNOMSIL	758	16 832	42
UNAVEM/MONUA	34 913	16 394	
UNIIMOG	16	5 201	
UNIKOM	526	3 218	19
UNMIBH	33 968	16 359	
UNMIH	24	43 373	
UNMLT		172	
UNMOT	1	3 220	
UNOMIL	6	5 185	1
UNOMUR/UNAMIR	1 339	17 664	
UNOSOM	57 842	15 560	24
UNPF	142 199	77 141	
UNPREDEP	1 238	14 009	
UNSMIH/UNTMIH/MIPONUH	19 394	114	7 366
UNTAC	40 484	40 145	
UNTAES/Civilian Police Support Group	8 734	15 204	
UNTAET/UNMISET	28 828	7 136	32
UNTAG	20	6 079	
Total	**423 822**	**318 686**	**24 981**

[a] Exclusive of amounts owed to troop-contributing countries for contingent-owned equipment, as well as credits to Member States from unencumbered balances pending instructions on their disposition.

Annex II

Borrowings by active missions from closed peacekeeping missions, July 2008 to 19 January 2012

(Millions of United States dollars)



Annex III

Borrowings, settlements and peak levels of cross-borrowings by active missions from closed missions for the period from 1 July 2007 to 18 January 2012

(Millions of United States dollars)

Month/year	Borrowings	Settlements	Balance	Peak level	Month/year	Borrowings	Settlements	Balance	Peak level	Month/year	Borrowings	Settlements	Balance	Peak level
July 2007	—	—	5.5	5.5	July 2009	—	—	18.0	18.0	July 2011	34.5	—	76.0	76.0
August 2007	9.0	—	14.5	14.5	August 2009	—	—	18.0	18.0	August 2011	5.0	—	81.0	81.0
September 2007	—	—	14.5	14.5	September 2009	3.0	—	21.0	21.0	September 2011	12.0	(66.0)	27.0	93.0
October 2007	14.5	—	29.0	29.0	October 2009	—	(12.0)	9.0	21.0	October 2011	—	(3.0)	24.0	27.0
November 2007	10.0	(20.0)	19.0	39.0	November 2009	—	—	9.0	9.0	November 2011	25.0	—	49.0	49.0
December 2007	9.0	(3.0)	25.0	25.0	December 2009	4.5	—	13.5	13.5	December 2011	—	—	49.0	49.0
January 2008	—	(11.5)	13.5	25.0	January 2010	18.5	—	32.0	32.0	January 2012	—	(14.0)	35.0	49.0
February 2008	—	—	13.5	13.5	February 2010	4.0	—	36.0	36.0					
March 2008	6.0	(8.0)	11.5	19.5	March 2010	—	(24.0)	12.0	36.0					
April 2008	—	(1.0)	10.5	11.5	April 2010	—	—	12.0	12.0					
May 2008	10.5	—	21.0	21.0	May 2010	—	—	12.0	12.0					
June 2008	13.0	(7.0)	27.0	34.0	June 2010	—	—	12.0	12.0					
July 2008	26.5	—	53.5	53.5	July 2010	—	—	12.0	12.0					
August 2008	3.0	(40.0)	16.5	56.5	August 2010	6.4	—	18.4	18.4					
September 2008	60.0	(4.0)	72.5	72.5	September 2010	—	(18.4)	—	18.4					
October 2008	10.0	(30.0)	52.5	72.5	October 2010	—	—	—	—					
November 2008	—	(32.0)	20.5	52.5	November 2010	—	—	—	—					
December 2008	19.0	(16.0)	23.5	39.5	December 2010	4.0	—	4.0	4.0					
January 2009	28.0	(15.0)	36.5	51.5	January 2011	3.5	—	7.5	7.5					
February 2009	3.5	—	40.0	40.0	February 2011	46.5	(41.0)	13.0	47.5					
March 2009	8.0	(36.0)	12.0	48.0	March 2011	—	—	13.0	13.0					
April 2009	6.0	—	18.0	18.0	April 2011	11.5	—	24.5	24.5					
May 2009	—	—	18.0	18.0	May 2011	4.0	—	28.5	28.5					
June 2009	—	—	18.0	18.0	June 2011	13.0	—	41.5	41.5					

Annex IV

Outstanding claims in closed missions with cash deficits as at 30 June 2011

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	Contingent-owned equipment	*Letters of assist*	*Total*
MINURCA	7 476.6	3.3	7 479.9
UNOSOM	12 453.0	3 037.3	15 490.3
UNSMIH/UNTMIH/MIPONUH		114.2	114.2
UNTAC	21 954.5	18 086.2	40 040.7
Total	**41 884.1**	**21 241.0**	**63 125.1**

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General Assembly

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Sixty-sixth session
Agenda item 146
Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

Letter dated 12 January 2012 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly

I have the honour to refer to General Assembly resolution 65/289, in which the Assembly established a Senior Advisory Group to advise on rates of reimbursement to troop-contributing countries and related issues. I would like to take this opportunity to inform you of the membership of the Senior Advisory Group, comprising five eminent persons of relevant experience appointed by the Secretary-General, five representatives from major troop contributors, five representatives from major financial contributors and one member from each regional group.

Pursuant to the resolution, I have appointed the following five eminent persons: Louise Fréchette, former Deputy Secretary-General and former Deputy Minister of National Defence for Canada (Chair); Zeid Ra'ad Zeid Al-Hussein, Permanent Representative of Jordan; Ellen Løj (Denmark), Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Liberia; Henry Anyidoho (Ghana), former Deputy Joint Special Representative in Darfur and former Deputy Force Commander of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda; and Carlos Alberto dos Santos Cruz (Brazil), former Force Commander of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti and currently Deputy Commander of Ground Operations for the Brazilian Army.

The five representatives nominated by the major troop contributors are: Abulkalam Abdul Momen, Permanent Representative of Bangladesh; Maged Abdelaziz, Permanent Representative of Egypt; Hardeep Singh Puri, Permanent Representative of India; Abdullah Hussain Haroon, Permanent Representative of Pakistan; and Chikadibia Isaac Obiakor (Nigeria), former Force Commander, United Nations Mission in Liberia, and former Military Adviser, Department of Peacekeeping Operations.

The five nominated representatives from the major financial contributors are: Jun Yamazaki, Ambassador, Permanent Mission of Japan; Jean-Marie Guéhenno (France), former Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations; James Dobbins, former Assistant Secretary of State of the United States of America; Paul

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Johnston, Ambassador of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to Sweden; and Hans-Joachim Daerr, former Ambassador of Germany to Japan.

The five representatives that have been nominated from each regional group are: José Luis Cancela, Permanent Representative of Uruguay, selected by the Latin American and Caribbean States; Macharia Kamau, Permanent Representative of Kenya, selected by the African States; Shavendra Silva, Deputy Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka, selected by the Asia-Pacific States; Andrii Taran from the Permanent Mission of Ukraine, selected by the Eastern European States; and Patrick Nash, the former Force Commander of Ireland, selected by the Western European and other States.

The Senior Advisory Group will commence its first meeting on 19 January 2012 specifically to finalize the scope of its work and working modalities.

I would appreciate if you would bring the present letter to the attention of Member States and observer missions.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

United Nations A/66/667

General Assembly

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Sixty-sixth session
Agenda item 20
Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

Letter dated 8 December 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that the Government of the Republic of Turkey has the political commitment to host in Istanbul a third United Nations conference on housing and sustainable urbanization (Habitat III), to be convened in 2016, in line with the bidecennial cycle (1976, 1996 and 2016).

I would like to remind you that Turkey, as the host of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), held from 3 to 14 June 1996, remains committed to the promotion of socially and environmentally sustainable human settlement development and urbanization.

I would appreciate it if you would kindly circulate the present letter as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 20.

(*Signed*) Ertuğrul **Apakan**

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United Nations A/66/668

General Assembly

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24 January 2012

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Sixty-sixth session
Agenda item 138
Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Letter dated 24 January 2012 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly

1. At present, 21 Member States are in arrears under the terms of Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations, which states:

> A Member of the United Nations which is in arrears in the payment of its financial contributions to the Organization shall have no vote in the General Assembly if the amount of its arrears equals or exceeds the amount of the contributions due from it for the preceding two full years. The General Assembly may, nevertheless, permit such a Member to vote if it is satisfied that the failure to pay is due to conditions beyond the control of the Member.

2. The minimum payments necessary to reduce the amounts owed by those Member States on their contributions so that they remain below the gross amount assessed for the preceding two full years (2010 and 2011) are as follows:

Member State	*Minimum payment (United States dollars)*
Cape Verde	2 939.66
Central African Republic[a]	295 067.00
Comoros[a]	869 291.00
Dominica	32 619.00
Dominican Republic	255 831.00
Gabon	169 114.00
Gambia	7 745.00
Guinea-Bissau[a]	472 930.00
Kyrgyzstan	35 278.00
Liberia[a]	156 399.00
Marshall Islands	33 234.00
Micronesia (Federated States of)	18 809.00

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Member State	*Minimum payment (United States dollars)*
Palau	21 039.00
Sao Tome and Principe[a]	757 006.00
Somalia[a]	1 185 336.00
Sudan	327 095.00
Swaziland	11 967.00
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	81 853.00
Tonga	39 895.00
Vanuatu	15 782.00
Yemen	170 384.00

[a] In its resolution 66/4 of 11 October 2011, the General Assembly decided that the Central African Republic, the Comoros, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Sao Tome and Principe and Somalia should be permitted to vote in the Assembly until the end of its sixty-sixth session.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

United Nations A/66/668/Add.1

General Assembly

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9 February 2012

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Sixty-sixth session
Agenda item 138
Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Letter dated 9 February 2012 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly

Further to my letter dated 24 January 2012 (A/66/668), I have the honour to inform you that the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia has made the payment necessary to reduce its arrears below the amount specified in Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations.

(Signed) **BAN** Ki-moon
Secretary-General

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United Nations A/66/668/Add.2

General Assembly

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14 February 2012

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Sixty-sixth session
Agenda item 138
Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Letter dated 14 February 2012 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly

Further to my letter dated 9 February 2012 (A/66/668/Add.1), I have the honour to inform you that the Marshall Islands has made the payment necessary to reduce its arrears below the amount specified in Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon
Secretary-General

12-23319 (E) 140212

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United Nations A/66/668/Add.3

General Assembly

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16 February 2012

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Sixty-sixth session
Agenda item 138
Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Letter dated 16 February 2012 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly

Further to my letter dated 14 February 2012 (A/66/668/Add.2), I have the honour to inform you that the Federated States of Micronesia and the Sudan have made the payments necessary to reduce their arrears below the amount specified in Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon
Secretary-General

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United Nations A/66/668/Add.4

General Assembly

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22 February 2012

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Sixty-sixth session
Agenda item 138
Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Letter dated 22 February 2012 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly

Further to my letter dated 16 February 2012 (A/66/668/Add.3), I have the honour to inform you that Palau has made the payment necessary to reduce its arrears below the amount specified in Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon
Secretary-General

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